WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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"Now press the clarion to thy woman's lip,
And blow all class walls level as Jericho's.
Past Jordan,—crying from the top of souls,
To souls, that, here assembled on earth's flats,
They get them to some purer eminence
Than any hitherto beheld for clouds!
What height we know not,—but the way we know.

—E. B. BROWNING.

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES
(NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 474).

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining Votes for Women. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 45,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 474 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They use neither violence nor intimidation, but rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 789.)

The Liberal Women's Suffrage Union

Chairman of Committee - - - - MRS. EVA McLAREN.
Vice-Chairman of Committee - - THE LADY ABERCONWAY.

Hon. Treasurers { THE LADY COWDRAY, THE HON. LADY NORMAN. Hon. Secretaries { MRS. F. D. ACLAND, MRS. P. HERON-MAXWELL.

In "Nash's Magazine" for July, 1913, the Chancellor of the Exchequer,

The Right Hon. DAVID LLOYD GEORGE

wrote: "Only a new movement altogether can now bring women to the goal of political emancipation; and it will have to be a sane, hard-headed, practical movement."

The Liberal Women's Suffrage Union is this New Movement, bringing a new wave of enthusiasm to Liberal Suffragists. Its policy is to secure a strong Liberal Suffrage majority in the next House of Commons, and this policy has the support of many prominent politicians, as being sane and hard-headed. Any Liberal woman is eligible for membership who signs a pledge to abstain from work for an anti-suffrage candidate till after the next General Election. Speaking at Berwick, on 27th October, 1913,

SIR EDWARD GREY

said: "If in the next House of Commons there is a majority which is really in earnest about woman's suffrage, I regard it as absolutely certain that it will be carried into law."

Whether you belong to other Suffrage Societies or not

JOIN THE NEW MOVEMENT

Apply for membership forms to-day to the Secretary, 29 Denison House, 296, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.

Stocktaking Sale Now on in all Departments and continues throughout January.

WILLIAM OWEN

Westbourne Grove, London, W.

All Goods over 2/6 in value, except Furniture, delivered Free in the United Kingdom.

Household Linen—SALE.

REMNANTS every THURSDAY.

Soft Polishing Dusters.
Sale Price, 1/11½ per doz.
Usual Price, 2/6½ per doz.

Irish Double Damask Table Cloths.

Sizes	Sale Price	Usual price
2 by 2 yds	8/11	10/11 each
2 by 2½ ,,	10/11	12/11 ,,
2½ by 3 ,,	12/11	15/11 ,,

Damask Serviettes.
Irish Damask Dinner Napkins,

Sizes	Sale Price	Usual price
25 by 25 ins.	8/11 doz.	10/11
27 by 27 ,,	10/11 doz.	13/11

Value in Warm Flannels,
white only, thoroughly shrink.

Widths	Sale Price	Usual price
28 ins.	1/6½ yd.	1/11½
30 ,,	1/9½ ,,	2/3½

Pyjama Flannels.
In Three Weights, Thoroughly Shrunk.
Sale price, 1/- per yd.
Usual Price, 1/4½ and 1/6½.

Irish Embroidered Cotton Bedspreads.

Size	Sale Price	Usual price
2 by 2½ yds.	6/11 each	8/11
2½ by 2¾ ,,	9/11 ,,	12/9

Hemmed Cotton Sheets.

Sizes	Sale Price	Usual price
2 by 3 yds.	6/11 pair	7/11
2½ by 3¼ ,,	8/11 ,,	10/11

Irish Linen Hemstitched Pillow Cases.

Sizes	Sale Price	Usual price
20 by 30 ins.	1/11½ each	2/9½
22 by 32 ,,	2/11½ ,,	3/11½
27 by 27 ,,	2/11½ ,,	3/11½

Egyptian Madapollam
42 inches wide.
Sale price 6/9 doz. yds.
Usual price 8/9 Specially adapted for Underwear.

Absorbent Floor Cloths.
Sale price, 1/0¾ per doz yds.
Usual price, 1/6½

Glass and Tea Cloths.
Lettered in Red.

Sizes	Sale price	Usual price
24 by 32 in.	5/11 doz.	6/11
25 by 34 ,,	6/11 ,,	7/11

Irish Linen Hemmed Huckaback Towels.
In Red, Blue, and White Ends.

Size	Sale Price	Usual price
25 by 42 ins.	1/0¾ each	1/3½

Stocktaking Sale
Now on.
BARGAINS in every Dept.

Dress Dept. 3,000 yards Woollen Dress Materials, Tweeds, Serges & Suitings, in all colourings, 54 inches wide, and worth from 3/11 to 5/11 per yard, Bargain Price, 2/- per yard
Patterns on application.

WILLIAM OWEN, Ld., Westbourne Grove, London, W. C.O.

Notes and Comments.

The Coming Demonstration.

The Albert Hall meeting, and the deputation which the N.U. is asking Mr. Asquith to receive, will certainly be of a very representative character. The Lord Provost of Glasgow, whose portrait we publish this week, is going on the deputation, and a telegram has just reached us to the effect that the Shetland County Council is sending a delegate to the Albert Hall. Scotland is giving a splendid lead, and in a most significant manner, for it must be remembered that City and County Councillors represent women voters as well as men voters—the very women whom the Anti-suffragists perpetually claim as their supporters!

The National Union and North-West Durham.

We published last week an official statement, explaining the action of the National Union in the North-West Durham election. Several letters, however, have reached us since, showing that the writers either do not know what the policy of the Union is, or do not grasp the bearing on that policy of the action taken by the Liberal party. The by-election policy of the National Union, laid down by its Council, shows that, "when a Labour candidate is first in the field, it shall not necessarily cease to support him if a 'tried friend' is subsequently put forward." It should surely be clear to everyone that when we have begun work in a constituency in support of a Labour candidate, it would not be honourable to withdraw that support at a later date, because a Liberal candidate had been brought in. To do so would be (1) to make our support worse than valueless to the Labour man, (2) to offer an inducement to the Liberal party to send a good Suffragist to contest every election where a Labour man was standing, and a confirmed Anti-suffragist where there was no possibility of a Labour candidate. Liberals have already realised this, and Mr. Costello is accordingly sent to Islington, while Mr. Aneurin Williams goes to North-West Durham. While deeply regretting the necessity of opposing so sound a Suffragist as the latter, we confess to some astonishment that anyone should be in the dark as to what official Liberalism is doing, or as to what the National Union is bound to do.

The Independent Labour Party and N.U. Policy.

At a conference of the North-Western Division of the Independent Labour Party last Saturday, it was stated by one of the speakers that at the next election "the N.U.W.S.S. would be opposing Mr. Hudson (Labour candidate for Eccles) and Mr. Wallhead (Labour candidate for Coventry) in favour of Liberals who were not nearly so sound on the question of the Suffrage"; and a fear was expressed that the Labour Party might find itself left in the lurch in those constituencies where the N.U. has promised to help Labour candidates. Such statements are, of course, based on a complete misunderstanding of the N.U.'s attitude. It is true that the general policy of the Union at the next election will have to be determined by a Special Council called when the occasion arises; but whatever that Council may decide, it will certainly not decide on any policy which would involve a breach of promises already made, or opposition to a party which places Women's Suffrage in the forefront of its programme, and has resolved to oppose any Franchise Bill which does not include women.

The Higher Education of Women—A Great Opportunity.

We hope the magnificent gift of £105,000 to the Bedford College for Women by Sir Hildred Carlile, in memory of his mother, will mark an era in the education of women. Hitherto, gifts on a great scale have been reserved for boys and men; women and girls have scraped money together painfully and in small sums. In America this has not been so, and we hope that it will no longer be so in Great Britain. But we are daring enough also to hope for a new departure in another sense. The old, bad tradition still lives and flourishes, by which endowments meant for the studious poor have been eaten up by the over-athletic rich. Let women break this vicious tradition. If there is anything on earth that is democratic, it should be education. Will not Bedford College use its magnificent opportunity to make it so, for women at least? If we could all learn side by side, and side by side enter the great republic of letters, where no gift counts but the open mind and the humble heart, where she is first who most desires to learn, could any bitterness of class or wealth afterwards enter to divide us? But to make this possible, we must have—in the words of the Workers' Education Association—not a ladder only of scholarships and prizes, but a great highway along which all may go who have care to learn, without taking away another's chance or profiting by another's defeat.

Physical Drill and Dress.

At the meeting held by the National League for Physical Education and Improvement, great stress was laid on the need for "a wide and comprehensive system of physical education." We wish all success to the League. Will it begin *now* to educate public opinion on the subject of girls' dress? The small daughters of the richer classes are now sometimes dressed in a way which makes it possible for them to run, and jump, and stand on their heads without alarming propriety. At the seaside in England, and still more often in France, they may be seen attired almost exactly like their little brothers. Can we not enfranchise the limbs of the poorer children, too? They are so often burdened with such a mass of petticoats as to make free movement impossible, and any kind of drill waste of time. The *Labour Woman* is doing its best for them, and its practical advice on how to make more sensible clothes, and *why* to make them, will earn the gratitude of all who want women to be strong and healthy when they grow up.

Women and Finance.

German women are evidently determined not to remain untrained and unskilled in finance. Four years ago they founded a bank, all of whose directors, and nearly all whose employees are women. Its success has been remarkable, and its founders now propose to issue a weekly paper (called "Women's Capital"), which will appear next week. This journal will be edited and for the most part written by women. It will organise and focus the forces which will give to women that economic power which is perhaps the most important of all. We heartily welcome the movement which, in giving women a real knowledge of finance, will be educational to them, and a most powerful lever to advance the whole Women's Movement.

Ulster and Ulster Women.

The attitude of the women of Ulster emphasises the well-known but often forgotten fact that war means as much to women as to men. The cost to them is even greater; the heroism shown by them no less. The *Daily Telegraph* reminds us that at the siege of Derry, in the Boer War, in the Netherlands against Alva, as in Sparta against her foes, the women have even outdone the men in courage. Civil war is terrible—even more terrible than other wars—and women desire peace. But it is not from lack of courage or from lack of knowledge that they desire it. We trust peace may yet be preserved.

Married Women and the Poor Law.

The *Manchester Guardian* publishes a correspondence between Mr. J. Theodore Dodd and Mr. N. Herbert, Poor Law Inspector, in which a point of importance to women is established. It happens commonly that wives are refused admission to workhouse infirmaries unless the husband also comes into the workhouse. This refusal is illegal. Boards of Guardians have no right to refuse the woman. We agree with Mr. Dodd that "it is unfortunate . . . that the Local Government Board has not published a circular explaining to the Guardians" that to do so is to act under a "delusion."

Votes for Women—An Impartial Enquiry.

The *Evening Sun* (New York) recently sent out a *questionnaire* on the effect of Women's Suffrage in America. Its intention was to add to the inquiries made by Suffragists and Anti-suffragists one which should be "absolutely unbiassed." The report of the answers received is headed—"All Voters Satisfied is General Verdict." It goes on to state: "Women who have the vote do vote. Their ballot has already passed a considerable body of law. The Suffrage States seem to be satisfied to have women go on voting. That is the gist of the replies."

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Forthcoming Meeting in Rome.

The quinquennial sessions of the International Council of Women will be held at the Hotel Quirinal, Rome, from May 4th to May 14th. During that week the International Committees which deal with the following subjects will do their work:—Peace and Arbitration; Laws concerning the Legal Position of Women; Suffrage and the Rights of Citizenship; Equal Moral Standard and Traffic in Women; Press; Finance; Health; Education; Emigration and Immigration. Mrs. Fawcett is the representative from the National Union of Women Workers on the Suffrage Committee. In connection with these meetings the National Council of Women of Italy has arranged a congress for the following week, the subject for discussion being "Woman in the home, in labour, and in works of public aid and prevention."

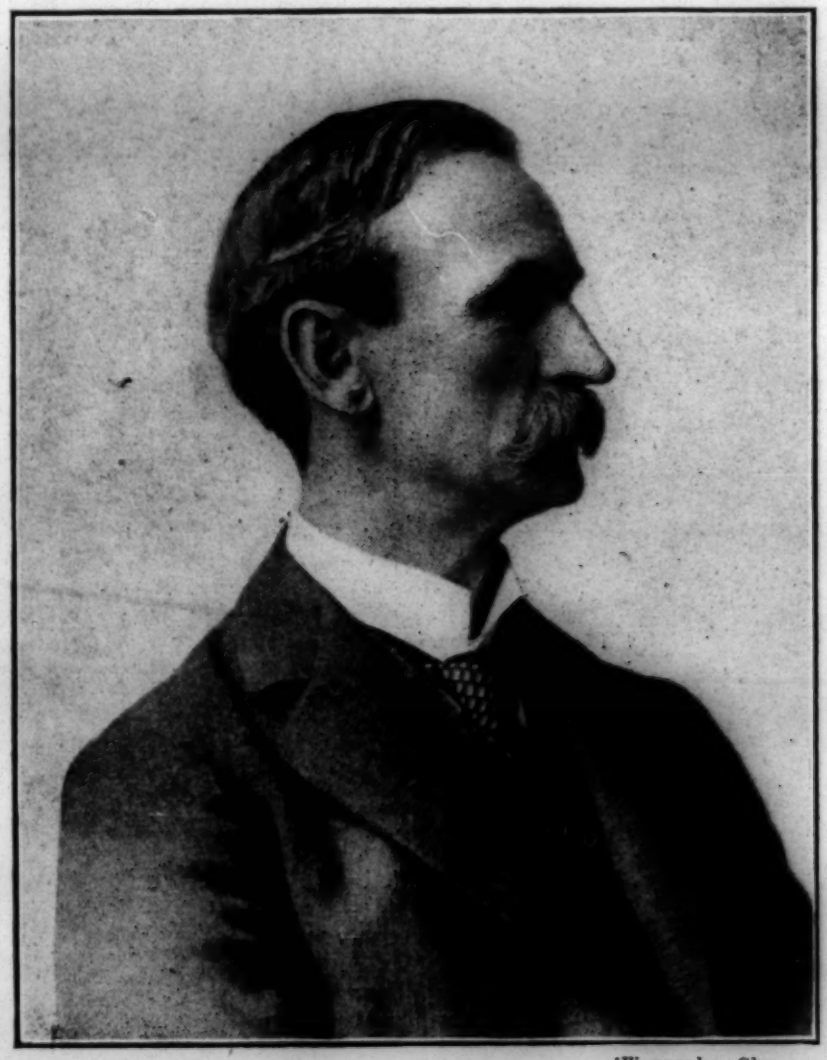
The International Council of Women is a Federation of National Councils or Unions of Women, formed in various countries for the promotion of unity and understanding between all associations of women working for the common welfare of the community. The formation of the Council was due to a company of earnest American women, who, after consultation with friends in England and France, decided to convene a representative assembly of delegates from as many countries as possible at Washington in 1888, to consider the possibility of organising national and international Councils of Women. It elected Mrs. Fawcett as its first President; Miss Clara Barton, of the Red Cross Society, as its Vice-President; and Mrs. Foster Avery as its Corresponding Secretary.

In 1893 the International Council accepted the invitation of the Women's Branch of the World's Congresses, held in connection with the Chicago World's Fair, to hold its first Quinquennial Meeting in Chicago. Women workers belonging to over thirty different nationalities responded to this invitation, and a large number returned to their own countries, pledged to form National Councils of Women in harmony with the Constitution of the International Council.

In 1904 the International Council of Women held its Quinquennial Meeting in Berlin, when, among other resolutions, the following was adopted *nem. con.*:—

"Inasmuch as all governments equally affect the men and women living under them, therefore be it resolved that under all governments, whether nominally republican or monarchical, whatever political rights, or privileges, are accorded to men ought, in corresponding terms to be accorded to women; and this Council advocates that strenuous efforts be made to enable women to obtain the power of voting in all countries where a representative government exists."

In 1909 the Quinquennial Meetings were held in Toronto, Canada, and Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen was again elected President, having been previously elected in 1893.



[*Warnenke, Glasgow.*

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Mr. D. M. Stevenson,

who will represent the Glasgow City Council on the deputation of men which Mrs. Fawcett has asked the Prime Minister to receive, in order that they may lay before him their views on Women's Suffrage.

In Memoriam.

Miss Marion Kennedy died at Torquay on Sunday, January 11th, at the house of her sister, Mrs. Kitson. She was the daughter of Dr. Benjamin Hall Kennedy, Head-master of Shrewsbury for many years, and later Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Cambridge and Canon of Ely. She was herself a highly educated woman, trained by her father in the scholar's exactitude of mind, and was, with her sister, Miss Julia Kennedy, among the leaders of the movement for women's higher education in Cambridge, and one of the founders of Newnham College. From its beginning until quite recently, she acted as its honorary secretary, and devoted herself wholeheartedly to its development and growth.

She was an ardent and generous supporter of Women's Suffrage on law-abiding lines. Every movement for extending the activities of women and developing their powers claimed and enjoyed her sympathy and support. She belonged by temperament and training to the Liberal party, but she was deeply alienated from it, and recently withdrew from it altogether on account of its unprogressive attitude on the subject of Women's Suffrage, and its failure to redeem the pledges given by Mr. Asquith on behalf of the Government to the National Union in November 1911.

This is a bare recital of the external facts of her life. To the many who knew and loved her, they form only a very small part of what she was. She brought to all the work she undertook an extraordinarily gentle and generous nature. No one ever heard an angry word, or the expression of an ungenerous thought, from her. If any report were made to her of conduct on the part of others, which was either discourteous or not straightforward, she would express difficulty in believing it. It was so contrary to her own nature as to be incredible. I can see now the perplexed look in her eyes, the little pucker in her forehead, and hear her voice saying: "I am sure there *must* be some mistake."

To generation after generation of Newnham students, her house was open with unfailing hospitality. The words "of all sorts enchantingly beloved" rise to one's mind in thinking of her. To her sister, Miss Julia Kennedy, who is now parted from her life-long friend and comrade, the deepest sympathy is offered.

Millicent Garrett Fawcett.

SUFFRAGE IN MR. ASQUITH'S CONSTITUENCY.

The *Leven Advertiser*, a leading Liberal paper in East Fife, comments on a recent Suffrage meeting in that constituency, in terms which every Liberal would do well to consider:—

"Some keen, if slightly dull, Liberal electors . . . look upon that meeting as a covert attack upon the Prime Minister. We cannot say that their reasoning strikes us as intelligent. . . . It should always be remembered that the Prime Minister is sent to Parliament not to voice his own opinions, but the views of the electors of East Fife. In the matter of Women's Suffrage, the great majority of electors of East Fife are in favour of the proposal . . . and the mere fact that a few women have allowed their zeal to outrun their discretion should not retard the electors from impressing their views on Mr. Asquith, and doing their best to see that their opinions are given effect to."

THE NEW MOVEMENT AMONG LIBERAL WOMEN.

In July, 1913, Mr. Lloyd George wrote in Nash's Magazine, "Only a new movement altogether can now bring women to the goal of political emancipation: and it will have to be a sane, hard-headed, practical movement." All Suffragists will agree that, outside Parliament, movement and growth are obvious

everywhere. Every society which touches women's questions is conscious of a new life at work within it. The Church Congress devoted a whole day to consider women's claims, whilst there is no newspaper at the present time which attempts to maintain the "conspiracy of silence" of which Suffragists formerly complained. It may be true that no Bill can pass the present Parliament because of the bitter personal attacks on the Prime Minister by the militants; but it is none the less true that neither Home Rule nor Welsh Disestablishment has the hold on the public interest that this question possesses.

Parliament, uneasily conscious of pledges still to be redeemed and its own timorous attitude towards the question of women's citizenship, is at present unapproachable; but the present House is not the one to which politicians look to carry this matter to a successful issue. The next Liberal Administration will have to bring in a new Reform Bill, in which women must be included, and which cannot be ruled out of existence.

This being so, the new movement, prophesied in July, is developing to-day with peculiar appropriateness among the Liberal women. A Union has been formed, known as the Liberal Women's Suffrage Union and consisting solely of Liberal women. Its object is to promote amongst them such a strong conviction of the need for women's enfranchisement that they shall take all possible constitutional means to secure the adoption of Liberal candidates in favour of Women's Suffrage, and abstain from working for any Anti-suffrage candidate. Any Liberal woman may join the Union who is prepared to sign a pledge not to work for an Anti-suffrage candidate until after the next General Election.

This policy will appeal to all Liberal Suffragists as sane and hard-headed. It should foster a sound Liberal opinion among the rank and file, and ultimately create a good and solid majority among Liberal Suffragists in the House of Commons. The Union is now in working order, and is enrolling numbers of Liberal women daily. All are welcome who will sign the pledge just referred to, whether they belong to the Women's Liberal Federation or the Women's National Liberal Association. Men are not eligible as members, but should they wish to show their practical sympathy they can do so by subscribing to the funds, for it is needless to say that contributions will be welcomed by the Hon. Treasurers, Lady Cowdray and Lady Norman.

Subscriptions are not essential to membership, but they *are* essential to the success of the Union, which must largely depend upon the support it obtains from those who realise the value of the work which it is prepared to undertake. We need money to pay organisers, travelling expenses, expenses of meetings and offices, and gifts have been generously sent in already. But on the support of Liberal Suffragists the success of the movement depends. Now is the time to sign the pledge and join the Union, to send support in money, to offer help as speakers, organisers, &c. The office of the Union is 29, Denison House, 296, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W., where all information will be gladly given.

The "new movement" has begun. Let all true Liberals see that it does, indeed, carry women to the goal of political emancipation towards which they have been pressing so steadily, and which has, after all, been the greatest objective of the Liberal Party throughout the whole course of its history.

EVA MCLAREN.

A TRIBUTE TO ULSTER WOMEN.

At the annual meeting of the Ulster Women's Unionist Council, held on Tuesday, strong tribute was paid by Sir Edward Carson to the enthusiasm and self-sacrifice of women:—

"While it will be mainly a battle of men, I know that the women of Ulster are behind their men, and are prepared to play as noble a part as the manhood is. It is, perhaps, one of the greatest signs of the justice of our cause, one of the greatest assurances of the victory which we contemplate, that, if anything, the women have realised almost more than the men, that they must make any and every sacrifice to see this thing through to the end."

The preparations which are being made by the women of Ulster include nursing, signalling, and telegraphing, and other work connected with the maintenance of communications, and it is calculated that with the help of the women an efficient postal and telegraphic service can be run for the whole province. The signalling corps is admitted to be one of the most efficient branches of the Ulster Force, some of its women members having gained high certificates; while 700 women in Belfast alone have passed in first aid and nursing, 300 more being now qualifying.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN RADNORSHIRE.

At a meeting of the County Liberal Association in Radnorshire, which is almost new ground for Suffrage work, a delegate rose to ask the candidate "whether he was in favour of Women's Suffrage or not." "Surely a sign of the times," comments a correspondent.

THE COVENTRY DIVISION and Mr. D. M. Mason.

We deeply regret the action of the Liberal party with regard to Mr. Mason's seat. He is not to be nominated again, because he is too independent—in other words, too good a Liberal to be always obedient to the official Liberal party. On several questions he has voted against the Government, in spite of the whips. On the subject of Women's Suffrage, he voted for the Conciliation Bill in 1911 and 1912, and for the Dickinson Bill in 1913, and also in support of Mr. Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill (November 5th, 1912), when the Government whips were put on against the motion. Both as a Suffragist and as a man of independent judgment, Mr. Mason will be a severe loss if officialism is allowed to have its way. As the *Daily News* says:—"A Liberal member is sent to Parliament to advocate and realise Liberalism. That will nominally mean, to support a Liberal Government, but *only so long as that Government is itself faithful in deed and word to Liberalism.*"

The Coventry Liberal Association meets on January 22nd (after we go to press), and will, we trust, successfully protest against the action of the Committee.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM.

In response to my second appeal I have had another demonstration of individual generosity on the part of many who wish Woman's Kingdom to be a real success. I am immensely grateful for the gift of £100, which relieves my mind of any worry about the advertising, but I am equally grateful for the smaller gifts, which represent much self-denial on the part of many. I shall now be able to go ahead with part of my advertising scheme. Later on—towards the end of February—I shall need the remaining £65 to complete the scheme.

V. C. COLLUM.

[*We have been obliged to hold over the list of donations for another week.*—ED., C.C.]

IRISH WOMEN IN THE "WOMAN'S KINGDOM."
£70 Wanted Within 10 Days.

The Committee organising "Woman's Kingdom" have offered a special section for an exhibition of Irishwomen's work. Irish Suffrage Societies, however, cannot afford to devote any of their funds to this purpose, and the Federation appeals to Irishwomen living in England to come forward and help in this enterprise. Contributions should be sent to Miss Louie Bennett, 29, South Anne Street, Dublin, who writes:—

"Our demand is a very modest one. £70 would enable us (with economy) to carry the venture through. £1,700 has been guaranteed by Englishwomen. Surely every Irishwoman who reads this appeal will feel it a duty and a pleasure to give some sum, however small, towards a scheme which would give wide recognition to the talents of her countrywomen, and afford an opportunity for strengthening and stimulating the Suffrage movement in Ireland. We want this money given or promised within TEN DAYS."

THE PERTH TRADES COUNCIL.

The Perth Trades Council has passed the following resolution:—

"That this Council, representing the Organised Trades of the City of Perth, urges the Government to introduce a Bill extending the franchise to women on equal terms with men, as we feel confident that if the franchise were so extended, the women of this country would be able to do more effective work in winning better social and economic conditions."

PRESBYTERY PASSES SUFFRAGE RESOLUTION.

A very remarkable victory has been won in the Presbytery of Irvine of Kilmarnock. A deputation, consisting of Mrs. Streeter and two members of the Kilmarnock Society, called on the members of the Presbytery, earnestly requesting their support of the resolution submitted by the Northern Men's League, in which that body asked them to approach the general assembly in favour of the Suffrage movement. The Presbytery, on Tuesday last, passed the resolution to approach the general assembly, and also carried a motion "that the Presbytery express its hearty sympathy with the desire of women for their political rights"

TWO WOMEN DECORATED.

The Legion of Honour has been bestowed on Mme. Sarah Bernhardt and Miss Edith Williams. The latter is an Englishwoman, the founder of the "Guild Internationale," in Paris, and, quite recently, in London. The Guild, whose object is educational, entitles Miss Williams to be regarded as "one of the pioneers of the Entente Cordiale."

THE CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT COMMITTEE.

An interesting course of lectures is announced by the C.L.A. Commitee, to be given fortnightly in the Kingsway Hall. The first, on "The Civic Responsibility of Women," was given by Miss Cicely Hamilton on January 22nd. Others on "Tolerated Vice," "Assaults on Children," "Housing," and the "Rising Moral Standard," will be by other well-known speakers. We are interested to see that only adult women will be admitted, and trust that the frankest possible discussion will take place. We gather that this is the express wish of the Committee which is organising the lectures.

NEWS FROM OUR OVERSEAS DOMINIONS.

CANADA.

The *Daily Telegraph* (January 15th) reports that "Women Suffragists in the Dominion are elated at the sweeping victory achieved by the 'Cause' in the Toronto municipal elections. One of the questions referred to the electorate was whether married women should be granted the municipal franchise on the terms on which it is now exercised by widows and spinsters, and the result was that 26,288 citizens voted 'Yes,' and 12,575 'No,' giving a majority of 13,713."

Every province in Canada has its Provincial Parliament, and, according to the *Daily Telegraph*, the Province of Saskatchewan is more favourably disposed than the rest towards the political franchise for women :—

"A resolution was lately passed by the Legislature of Saskatchewan requesting the Government to take the question of votes for women into consideration during the present Session. Premier Scott heartily endorsed the resolution, and expressed the hope that the movement would become sufficiently strong to warrant the bringing in of a Government bill. In British Columbia the outlook is less promising. Sir Richard McBride has declined to introduce a franchise measure. He told a deputation from the local Suffrage Societies that the Executive were divided on the question."

WEST AUSTRALIA.

The following resolutions were passed at the annual meeting of the West Australian National Council of Women, on October 31st last :—

(1) "The West Australian National Council of Women, at the Annual Meeting assembled, send sympathy and moral support to the women of Great Britain in their efforts to obtain Political Rights, and trust that the day may not be far distant when women subjects of Oversea Dominions of Greater Britain, shall obtain and enjoy their political status in whatsoever part of the Empire they may be domiciled.

(2) "This Council views with deep concern any difference being made in the treatment of male and female political offenders in their efforts to obtain constitutional rights of any kind."

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

FINLAND.

The Secretary of the Anglo-Finnish Society in London gives us an account of the Women Members of Parliament in Finland. He points out that the enfranchisement of women in Finland in 1906 was a natural political step in the social evolution which had already given complete social equality to women, in education, careers, and social influence. Of twenty-one women members of Parliament, six have been teachers, three journalists, one a very able woman, quite self-made, has been a cook, two possess a high degree as Doctors of Philosophy in Helsingfors University, one is a factory inspector, two are seamstresses, one is a peasant's wife, and the rest are the wives of journalists or of working men. All of them are, or have been, active in some section of social or political service. Twelve of these women are married, and the husbands of three of them are also in Parliament. Our informant quotes the words of Senator Leo Mechelin, of Finland :—

"Women who have to bring up a family are much more capable of instilling into the rising generation the love of nation and fatherland and fostering in them the feeling and duty of a common citizenship, than when they have no political rights or interests. And as for married life, a broadening out of the sphere of common interests is a gain."

FRANCE.

"The protection of the mother and her infant" was the subject of the third Conference on the Social Functions of Women, held in Paris on December 4th. An interesting parallel was drawn between the position of the working-class mother in France of forty years ago and to-day. Formerly, assistance to mothers was given only during confinement; to-day the mother is regarded as rendering social service, and as having a right to protection; formerly help was given only to married women, and no respectable person would have taken an unmarried mother into her service. The future of the infant was never considered. To-day the whole attitude has changed, and these mothers are considered and helped both before, during, and after confinement.

L'Affaire Couriau is still occupying the minds of French feminists. On January 4th the *Fédération du Livre* discussed the question of the right of women printers to admission to the trade and pronounced against it. *La Française* is uniting with certain Women's Societies to consider what steps should now be taken. "Ought we," asks *La Française*, "to bow to the decision of the Fédération du Livre, or should we not rather try by every means in our power to influence public opinion upon the irregular, partial, and unjust proceedings of the Central Committee?"

GERMANY.

A petition demanding the enfranchisement of women on the same terms as men has been presented to the German Reichstag. A Socialist motion in favour of referring the petition to the Chancellor, with a view to action being taken upon it, was supported by half the Radical group, but was rejected. The Centre were unable to support the petition at the present time, though not definitely opposed to Women's Suffrage, and the Conservatives and National Liberals would have preferred to block the discussion. We hope to publish an account of the debate shortly, from a German correspondent. Reports in the English Press have been confused and contradictory.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel, in his speech from the throne at the opening of the Italian Parliament in Rome, spoke of the Government's intention to give women their rightful place in politics. A great extension of the franchise has already taken place in Italy, and the king alluded to this in his speech on November 27th last: "A new era," he said, "has been inaugurated . . . by a law recognising the right of all Italians to a share in the management of political affairs."

POLAND.

The *Zeitschrift für Frauenstimmrecht* reports the formation of a Polish Men's League for Women's Suffrage, lately founded in Zemberg.

SWITZERLAND.

Le Mouvement Féministe discusses the question of the legal protection of factory workers in Switzerland, in view of a bill now under discussion intended to supplement the existing law, passed in 1877, and amended from time to time. Experience has now shown to some extent which regulations regarding women factory workers have proved of real benefit to them, and it is now possible to legislate accordingly. For example it is found that the rule allowing women factory workers who are also housewives a longer interval than other workers at mid-day, is of great benefit. On the other hand, the prohibition to work during the eight weeks before and after confinement "has not produced the salutary effects anticipated by the legislators, because this period of rest has involved too great a loss of wages." The working day will now be reduced from eleven to ten hours a day. Women, being mainly employed in textile industries, work longer hours than men, and this is likely to continue under the new system, since their Trade Unions are not strong enough to enable them to insist on any conditions more favourable than the law provides.

The women of Zurich are making an effort to obtain the right to elect their priests and members of the Church Council—a right already possessed by women in certain other parts of Switzerland. Considerable influence is exercised by women on District and Central Schoolboards, and the Orphan Asylum Board has recently shown its appreciation of the work of its women inspectors and assistants by unanimously electing a woman to the highest post on its Council.

UNITED STATES.

The National Suffrage Association of America has made important arrangements for 1914. Its first object is to get the Suffrage amendment to the Constitution of the United States passed by the Senate as soon as Congress assembles after the holidays, and the rest of the Session will be devoted to urging the House of Representatives to consider the Bill favourably. Mr. Medill McCormick of Chicago has been elected Chairman of the Congressional Committee of the National Suffrage Association. The headquarters of the Committee will be in Washington until the Bill passes Congress, but the Committee thinks it unnecessary to take a long lease.

The bulletin from National Suffrage Headquarters prophesies that the present year will see at least four Campaign States, and probably seven new Suffrage States. In Nevada, North and South Dakota, and Montana, Suffrage amendments will be submitted to the voters in November. In Missouri, Nebraska, and Ohio signatures are now being collected, so that Suffrage amendments may be submitted by initiative petition.

The New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* reports that :—

(1) Colorado has elected a woman, Mrs. Gertrude Lee, to be Chairman of the democratic party of the State—not quite unprecedented however.

(2) The Women's Prison Association of New York has every prospect of securing a bill permitting women police officers.

(3) The Brooklyn Rapid Transit-Railway report that the women cashiers at the stations are "just as efficient and more economical than men."

Correspondence.

AN ACTIVE SERVICE CORPS.

MADAM,—By an accident, I did not obtain a copy of THE COMMON CAUSE of the 9th inst. until too late in the following week to be able to offer my humble support of Mrs. Harley's use of military terms before your going to Press. I hoped to find in the current number that someone abler and more influential than myself had come forward on Mrs. Harley's side. Possibly it is because I am descended from generations of soldiers, but I think for a deeper and wider reason. I would like to record my admiration for Mrs. Harley's sensible and stimulating defence.

Miss O'Shea's protest seems to me unphilosophical and superficial. There is a profound truth in the utterance ascribed to some great ministers, "Peace—peace at any price, even at the price of war!" into which I cannot, of course, enter here. It is one of the great antinomies that certain virtues, in our present state of civilisation and spiritual development, cannot be acquired save through preparedness for battle and bloodshed. To despise the lessons of a defensive army is as unphilosophic as to despise the direct lessons of pain in the manner of those Imperial thinkers who seek to destroy pain and sorrow by denial, thereby depriving themselves of the services of one of God's great angels.

ISOBEL FITZROY HECHT.

WOMEN AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

MADAM,—The correspondence on this subject shows that people regard it very differently; three quite separate proposals, all in favour of organised interference in municipal elections, having been made. I write as one holding that it is undesirable and wrong to import party or imperial politics into municipal matters; that a man's (or woman's) qualifications for municipal usefulness are apart from, and cannot be gauged by, his political opinions; and that if we vote in a municipal contest with regard only to a candidate's political complexion, we fail in our duty, which is to try to secure that candidate best qualified to carry out definite administrative work. I am, therefore, opposed to all your correspondents (Miss Bloxam, Miss Pendered, Mrs. Chadwick) who counsel voting in municipal elections for Suffragists, as such. But, apart from its ethical side, I think such action is futile. It brings the question before no new electorate, for all the men are Parliamentary voters as well; and its irrelevance, and the suggestion of terrorism or compulsion in it, are both characteristic of the militant propagandism which the National Union deprecates. True, the symptoms are much milder, but the spirit is the same, and will engender exactly the same sort of impatience as that which we lament as a result of militancy.

Lord Robert Cecil deals only with women voters, and points out that where municipal elections are fought on political lines, an organised women's vote may, in an even contest, turn the scale, and elect a suffragist who without it would have been beaten. There is perhaps not much to be said against this, in such places. It would show that women are at least not worse than men, in using the vote, where they have it, for purposes for which it was not intended. Yet I have heard it urged very frequently on suffragist platforms, that when women get the Parliamentary vote, they will use it more carefully, and (shall I say?) honestly than men often do. Further, there is a large body of timid opinion, not actively opposed to suffrage, which sees, in an electorate in which the majority are women, the danger that the majority will have all power, and that we poor men will be ousted for ever. This is an argument greatly used by Anti-suffragists. These timid ones are always assured, and rightly, that women are as various as men, and will never give a solid vote as women against the vote of a solid block of men. But would it be wise or politic to show them that where women have the vote they *can* and *do* organise it to vote solid as women, regardless of the questions actually at issue?

E. B. Bishop's letter advocates the direct support by Suffragists of a Labour candidate, apparently as such, for there is no indication in the letter that the other candidate was not a Suffragist, too; and the same policy is—I was going to say suggested, but perhaps Mr. Balfour's word more appropriately fits—adumbrated by Dr. Williams in her somewhat cryptic and hypothetic letter. I wish to say, that on the front page of every issue of THE COMMON CAUSE, there appears in prominent type "Non-party," and that some of us are beginning to find it very difficult to reconcile in our consciences that declaration with some of the National Union's actions, even in Parliamentary contests. Whatever action individual members may take, I think the Union, or its Societies, would be extremely unwise to court dissension by excursions into municipal contests on these lines.

On all hands, there is evidence that the Suffrage movement is gaining ground. It is doing so because of its justice and reasonableness, and we shall forward it best by being reasonable (I use the word in its etymological sense) in our advocacy. No cause prospers by the help of threats and irrelevant pin-pricks. Do not let us be accused, as the militants are accused, of thus hampering and delaying our cause. Rather let it be said of us, as it was said of truth by the man who upheld before Darius the thesis that women are strongest, but truth overcometh all things, "She doeth things which are just, and abstaineth from unjust and wicked things, and all men favour her works."

J. T. DUNN.

[The case for and against extending the N.U. by-election policy to municipal elections has been well presented, and we must now bring the correspondence on this subject to a close.—ED. C.C.]

THE PLACE OF HANDICRAFT IN EDUCATION.

MADAM,—While thanking Mr. Dakers for his courteous appreciation of the tone of my article, may I point out that he has somewhat misunderstood the purport of it? He complains of the serious mistake of which I am guilty, in speaking of "the joy of work" as an aim of education. I imagine that he is using the word "work" in the restricted sense of manual labour only. I had in my mind the wider application, viz., that labour, whether of hand or head, is equally work and equally honourable. My point was that manual labour has been found to stimulate the mind. Many a dull child, having had his powers developed and aroused by means of handicraft, has been able in consequence to make real progress with headwork.

Girls who have learnt to apply their arithmetical knowledge to household matters will not be less ready or less able to learn the mysteries of stocks and shares. The fact which above all I wished to emphasise was, that handwork teaches the joy of *work*, and that the experience so gained encourages children to apply themselves to headwork, of which the joys are not—to them—so apparent.

MARGARET SMITH-MASTERS.

COUNTY ASYLUMS.

MADAM,—While sympathising very much with "The Mother of a Pauper Patient," I feel it unfair to allow her letter to give your readers such a wrong impression of County Asylums. Undoubtedly many of the circumstances are trying to persons accustomed to more refined surroundings, but the food is most certainly not insufficient, as is proved by the fact that all patients are weighed regularly, and almost without exception, and in a remarkably short time after admission they gain weight to a surprising extent. The clothing is, as a rule, what the average good-class working-man wears, and in all well-ordered asylums it is adequate and clean, and kept specially for the patient to whom it is first given. If stripped of his belongings it is in consideration of the patient, and it is not known for a while if the patient is capable of the care of such possessions. As to the indignities inflicted by young attendants, if such occur, the patient who feels them may always obtain redress by appealing to those in authority, who are frequently visiting the wards.

In some County Asylums arrangements can be made for a patient to have extra privileges for 15s. weekly, and in most of them private patients are taken from £1 a week. I have seen in a County Asylum private patients for whom a guinea a week is paid taking their meals in a separate room, fifteen patients having three or four attendants or nurses, and a housemaid waiting upon them. These patients wore their own clothes, had excellent food, and, if considered fit for sleeping out of continuous observation, separate bedrooms, suitably furnished, and in which they had care of their clothing. There are institutions for private patients only, where the charge is from 25s. weekly. As to the patient being left to take his chance of recovery in close confinement, all fit patients take outdoor exercise daily and live under the healthiest possible conditions, and all is done to forward recovery. Statistics will tell those interested that the percentage of recoveries is a good one.

AN OLD ASYLUM WORKER.

THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.

MADAM,—Some comments have reached me with reference to my article on "The Unmarried Mother and Her Child" in your issue of December 26th last, to which I should be glad of an opportunity to reply.

There is nothing in the working of the Day-Servants' Hostel which precludes the girls from obtaining an affiliation order. On the contrary, if they desired to do so we should assist them. But it is against our principles to interfere with a girl's liberty of decision in a matter which concerns her so intimately; and our experience is that most girls would rather forego the slight chance of getting the money (in the present state of the law the chance is slight indeed) rather than face the horrors of a cross-examination in Court.

And as at present a millionaire cannot be made to pay more than 5s. a week for an illegitimate child, it is quite obvious that obtaining an affiliation order would not preclude a girl from the necessity of earning her own living. The Day-Servants' Hostel offers her an opportunity of doing this without separation from her child.

S. M. KINGSFORD.

N.W. DURHAM BY-ELECTION.

MADAM,—Can nothing be done to save the N.U.W.S.S. from its present false position with regard to the contest in North-West Durham?

If there has been a tried and trusted friend to the Women's Cause, it is Mr. Aneurin Williams, yet the N.U.W.S.S. is opposing his election. Our position is odious—it is that of a house divided against itself.

A MEMBER OF THE N.U.W.S.S.

[We refer to this letter in "Notes and Comments."—ED. C.C.]

ANDERSON'S
WATERPROOFS
37, Queen Victoria St., E.C.
58-9, Charing Cross, S.W.

PHYL

By CICELY HAMILTON.

SYNOPSIS.

John Ashburton Folliott has been invited to the Ponsonby's house ostensibly to shoot, but in reality because he is regarded by Mrs. Ponsonby as a suitable husband for her daughter Mabel, who, however, is already attached to another man. A friendship with the two children of the family brings him into contact with their governess, Phyllis Chester, and his visits to the schoolroom do much to brighten her lonely life. So far, the one deep affection of her life has been for her sister Cathy, who has drudged and battled to make a home for both.

Folliott's attitude towards Phyllis is kindly and sympathetic—but nothing more. He never dreams of falling in love with her. "Automatically, and as a matter of tradition, he placed women of Phyllis Chester's class outside the sphere of marriage with such as himself." At the same time he regards a governess as "a female essentially respectable." When he finds that, as a result of his visits to the schoolroom, Phyllis has lost her post—Mrs. Ponsonby suspecting a flirtation and being angry at the failure of her matrimonial schemes—he is much distressed, and feels that he owes her some sort of reparation.

An enquiry as to her plans for the future leads Phyllis to a passionate outburst against the dulness of her lot. "I often feel I could go to the devil, if I only knew the way" she finally exclaims, "Wish I did!"

This puts into Folliott's head the idea of taking Phyllis abroad and giving her a taste of the brighter side of life. After a little hesitation Phyllis accepts his offer. "You are the only person" she said at last "who has ever been good to me—barring Cathy."

They meet in London, do some shopping, dine at an hotel, and take the night boat for Calais. Phyllis feels no pricks of conscience—the only thing that mars her enjoyment of Folliott's liking and protection and the novelty of travel is the thought of Cathy. But Folliott finds that, for all her light-heartedness, she does sometimes trouble about the time when he will have "had enough of her."

The situation is complicated by the arrival of the Ponsonby family at the same hotel. Folliott would have preferred to allow Mrs. Ponsonby to think that Phyllis was his wife; but Phyllis will not make any pretence, as she does not wish it "to be awkward for him" later on. He is surprised and somewhat shocked that she takes the contretemps so lightly. They decide to go on to Genoa.

Phyllis writes to her sister Cathy, for the first time giving her address. Cathy, regarding the letter as "a summons and a cry for help," sets out at once for Genoa to bring Phyl home, but, to her distress and bewilderment, finds her unrepentant and determined to persist in her mode of life.

Having failed in her effort to induce Phyl to return, Cathy departs, sad at heart, assuring her that "when it comes to an end" she can rely upon a welcome home. Coming into the room—half an hour later—Folliott notices that Phyl is looking depressed. He picks up a shabby glove, which he feels sure cannot be Phyl's, and Phyl explains that it is her sister's.

"YOUR sister's!" exclaimed Folliott, not sure if he had heard her aright.

"Yes," she said, looking past him. "She has been here this evening; she must have dropped it. . . . She's gone—gone home again."

He did not know what to say—what she expected or wanted from him—and, in his perplexity, said nothing and waited for further detail or explanation. None came. Phyl looked past him at the window in silence while her mouth twitched a little; and then, unexpectedly, she rose and came to him, and put her head on his shoulder and her arms round him.

"Jack," she said, "take me out somewhere this evening—somewhere nice. I want to be amused."

* * * * * *

In the small hours of the morning Cathy left Genoa. There was nothing to keep her there, and something in her—the impulse of the wounded animal—urged her homeward and away from the strangeness around her. Instinctively, since suffer she must, she desired to suffer in her own place and in hiding; to shut herself up in her own room and wait till Phyl came back to her. . . . She would take a day's rest before she went back to the office. Mr. Pollock had expected her to be away for a week, so there would be no harm in that. And, without it, she would not be fit to return to work.

The long, racketing journey seemed to her like an evil dream through which she slept from sheer exhaustion and woke, and slept again, and obediently changed carriages. When, at length, she stood on the deck of the boat and watched the French shore recede into a grey mist, she wondered if it was all real and if it had ever happened—whether she herself had not summoned up that vision of Phyl defiant, exulting in her sin and reckless of conscience and consequence? . . . Halfway across the Channel another boat came sliding out of the mist over the dull, smooth sea, and her eyes followed it wearily till it slid back into the mist again. That was the steamer on the way to France from England; and aimlessly her mind began to travel back over the details of her weary journey. She could not guess that the swiftly-passing boat with the black and white funnels was a link in Phyl's fate, and therefore in her own; that, huddled up in a deck-chair and an overcoat, a frowning little gentleman was speeding on his way to enter her sister's life and to make alteration in it. A little elderly gentleman, lost in thought, who sighed frequently as the boat rushed onward, and who, setting foot on French soil but a few minutes after Cathy had set her foot on English, took the Paris train to travel through Paris to Genoa. He travelled more comfortably than Cathy had done, and settled down for the night in a sleeper; but, for all that, he, too, passed the hours of dark restlessly. For he was a kindly little man at heart and the bearer of bad news; and, lying awake in the rumbling train, he wondered how best to break it.

At Genoa he drove straight to Jack's hotel, inquired whether Mr. Folliott was still there, and, having ascertained that he was, engaged a room for himself, and described himself in the visitors' book as George Westmacott, from London. He washed off the dust of his journey and changed his clothes; and, finally, emerging from his room as a tidy, worried-looking little Englishman, made for the number which had been given him as that of Folliott's sitting-room. He knocked, was answered, and entered—and seeing a woman, and a woman only in the room, imagined, for an instant, that he had made a mistake in the door.

"I beg your pardon," he stammered, tried to translate it into Italian, and was mightily relieved to find there was no need of the process. "I am afraid I have made a mistake in the number. I am looking for a friend of mine—Folliott, the name is——"

Phyl explained that there was no mistake. This was Mr. Folliott's room; he was out at the moment, but would certainly be back directly. He asked if he might wait—told her he was an old friend of Jack Folliott's, an old friend of Jack Folliott's father. He had travelled straight through from London on purpose to see him on a matter of important business. By the way, he supposed that Jack had not been receiving many letters from England of late? She told him, no, they had been moving about so; it was only since they reached Genoa that he had wired to London for his last week's post. The old gentleman nodded and said so he understood. While they talked he surveyed her with shrewd, not unkindly eyes, and decided that Jack had good taste. . . . They had been five minutes talking when Folliott came in and found them.

"Why, what brings you here?" he asked in frank astonishment as he and Westmacott shook hands.

"Business," Phyl told him. "Mr. Westmacott wants to have a talk with you. So I'm going to leave you for a bit."

"Well," Jack asked cheerfully as he closed the door behind her, "and what is the business? Anything important?"

The old gentleman took off his glasses, polished them vigorously, and cleared his throat uncomfortably.

"Sanders told me he hadn't known where to write to you lately."

"I know; we've been knocking about for the last ten days or so, since we left Carcassonne—I had a post there. Why did he want to write? Had he anything to tell me?"

Westmacott did not answer directly; he put on a final polish, and cleared his throat again.

"I was with him when your wire came—giving the address here. . . . He wanted to wire back, but I—persuaded him not to. I told him I would take the next train and see you myself."

"Why?" Jack asked sharply. "What has happened?" Something was coming, he knew; why couldn't the old chap speak out?

"I've got bad news for you, Jack."

Jack could have answered that he knew it already. All he did say was, "Anybody dead?"

"No—at least no one that you care about. But there has been a death that—affects you."

"Affects me?" Folliott repeated. "What do you mean—who?"

"Your solicitor—Mr. Strangeways."

"Strangeways dead?"

Westmacott nodded as he slowly put on his spectacles.

"Strangeways—I should have thought he would have lived to be ninety! What was it? It must have been fairly sudden—I saw him the day I left London, and he looked——"

"He took his own life," the old gentleman said.

"Strangeways—impossible!"

"Shot himself in his office. One evening—after the clerks had gone. . . . That's what I came to tell you. He was at the end of his tether. He'd been speculating—with other people's money."

"With mine?" Jack asked grimly; and Westmacott nodded the answer.

"You seem to have put temptation in his way—you seem to have left everything to him."

"I'd known him since I was a child. I trusted him—absolutely."

"That was the temptation," Westmacott sighed.

"Do you know how much?" Folliott asked between his teeth.

"He left a letter." . . . The old man hesitated and almost stopped. "He said in it that he—had lost everything."

"Everything!" Jack repeated. "You can't mean—everything?"

And suddenly the whole thing seemed to him ridiculous. He, sitting here with old Westmacott, gazing out at the Mediterranean and the lights; feeling just as he always did, looking just as he always did; and everything—everything gone! It was unbelievable, and it simply had not happened. And Strangeways, the jolly old Strangeways with the jolly red face, who used to tip him when he went to school. . . . It was a mighty and absurd impossibility!

And then he heard Westmacott's voice say heavily, "It must have been going on for years," and knew that it was true. Even jolly old Strangeways—a swindler with a bullet in his brain. . . . It was true!

"Strangeways," he said stupidly, "Strangeways—good God!" He fell to staring out of the window again, and trying to make himself realise what it meant. Westmacott began to fumble in his pocket while he talked.

"You're not the only one. Not that that is much comfort. He seems to have helped himself all round. . . . It was in the papers yesterday—the inquest. I brought one with me—the coroner read the letter."

He smoothed out the sheet of newspaper and handed it over to Folliott. There was nearly a column headed: "Inquest on a City Solicitor. Enormous Defalcations." Jack read it through—slowly and not missing a line or a word. The evidence of the caretaker who found the body, the evidence of the doctor, of the clerk who had last seen him alive and said "good-night" to him. And then the letter in full—the dead man's confession of a guilt that could no longer be hidden.

"That seems pretty clear," he said as he finished. He folded the

paper carefully, and handed it back to Mr. Westmacott. "There isn't any way of getting out of that." Then he burst out with "Damned scoundrel!" and pulled himself together again quickly. "You're quite right—there is nothing. . . . You see, I left everything to him—signed what he told me to sign, and never asked a word. Of course, I was an absolute fool to do it; but who could have imagined that Strangeways was such a——poor devil, he's dead! About the best thing he could do—shoot himself. It would have meant Dartmoor for him if he'd lived."

He sat with his head resting on his hand, staring down at the carpet with unseeing eyes, and talking and pausing in jerks.

"I can't believe it, though I know it's true. . . . I always liked old Strangeways. I remember him coming to the house when I was a little chap in petticoats—and eating almonds off his plate at dessert. And now he's had everything; made a clean sweep. . . . You see it isn't as if I had anything I could turn into money. Any property. I've always liked knocking about the world—never settled down and bought a place. . . . I don't seem to grasp it yet. I suppose I shall . . . Some time or other."

Little Mr. Westmacott shifted in his chair, and began on his glasses again. "My dear boy," he jerked out huskily, "if there's anything I can do. . . You know how I stand—there's not so very much. But I should feel hurt if you——"

"Thanks," Jack caught him up. It was a curt expression of gratitude, but it was meant and understood. He drew a long breath and straightened himself in his chair; somehow the little man's offer had steeled him and steadied his nerves. "Thanks," he repeated, "but, after all, I don't see that I ought to turn to anyone. When I say I've got nothing, I don't mean that really. I'm not penniless yet. There's something at the bank to go on with. Whatever Strangeways was doing with my capital, he paid my interest into the bank all right."

"Naturally," Westmacott nodded.

"Even when I've settled up everything— bills and so on—there'll be a hundred or two to give me a start somewhere. Out of England, of course. . . . After all, it might be worse—a good deal worse. I've been knocking about the earth for a good many years because I liked it; the only difference, now, is that I shall knock about the earth because I've got to. I shall manage somehow . . . I think I shall try Queensland."

"Queensland—why Queensland?"

"I think I know a man who'll do something for me there." He rose and began to walk about the room, knitting his brows reflectively. "He'll give me a start anyway. It's Curtis—Raymond Curtis. I think I'll cable him to-night. . . . You didn't know him, did you? We were at Cambridge together. He was a good chap, but after he left the 'Varsity he came a bad mucker. It was so bad that his people wouldn't have anything more to do with him. So he came to me, and I helped him out of the country, and that sort of thing. . . . I know he hasn't forgotten about it; and he's doing well in Queensland now. Sugar plantations—quite a big pot. I stayed with him when I was out there two years ago, and I liked the place and I liked the life. Decent country and a decent climate. . . . I'll cable and get out to him as quickly as I can—there's no object in hanging about in England."

"No," Westmacott agreed with him, "there is certainly no object. . . . I'm glad you take it like this, my boy."

"There isn't any other way to take it," Jack returned with an attempt at a laugh. "And I'm not afraid of going under—there isn't much chance of that. . . . Good God, if that were all!"

His voice snapped queerly, and he strode to the window and turned his back on the room.

"If that were all?" the little man repeated. "What do you mean, Jack?"

There was a moment's silence before Jack Folliott answered him huskily—

"You've seen—I'm not alone."

"Ah!" was all Westmacott permitted himself to remark. He was a cautious little man and waited before committing himself.

"What's to become of her?" Folliott demanded almost roughly.

"Has she—er—been with you long?" Mr. Westmacott asked, still cautiously.

"Only a few weeks. She came with me when I left England." Westmacott fidgetted and coughed. He felt that the other was asking for sympathy and help, and, for the life of him, he did not know how to give it.

"Is she—er—much attached to you?" he inquired lamely at length. Folliott laughed shortly, still with his back to the questioner.

"It may sound odd to you, but I really don't know. . . . No, I don't suppose she is what you would call much attached to me."

"Then, in that case——" Westmacott began hopefully; but Jack cut him short.

"You don't understand. I can't tell you the whole story, but you can take it from me that, though she didn't come to me exactly for love, she has got a claim upon me. For one thing, before she met me she had always—run straight."

"Quite so," Westmacott said. "I thought—in fact, she struck me in that way."

"It'll be damned hard on her," Jack went on thickly. "Damned hard! This sort of thing doesn't do any good to a girl who's got her living to earn—as she has. I ought never to have taken her away. Throwing her over after a few weeks—it makes you feel like a brute."

"My dear boy," the other tried to console him, "I don't think that there is any need to—to take this aspect of the matter so much to heart. Naturally, it would have been better if it hadn't happened for—er—for more reasons than one. But I don't see that you have any cause to reproach yourself——"

"What is she going to do?" Jack interrupted him, "when I tell her the game's over? When I tell her I've done with her? What is she going to do?"

Mr. Westmacott coughed thoughtfully. It had just struck him that even if the young woman in question was not particularly attached to her temporary partner, the same could not be said of the temporary partner himself. He refrained, however, from putting his reflections into words.

"Hasn't she any friends to go to—relations?" he inquired.

"A sister—some sort of a drudge in an office, I believe. Nobody else."

"That's unfortunate, of course—that is very unfortunate for her. But, all the same, my boy, I can't see that she has any right to reproach you."

Folliott laughed unsteadily.

"She's not likely to do that," he said under his breath. "I don't suppose she'll reproacn me, for an instant. But—will that make it any the better for her?"

"Still," Westmacott began, and was casting about for further consolatory platitudes when Jack swung round on him suddenly.

(To be continued.)

AN AMUSING BOOK.

"Samantha on the Woman Question"—recommended in our last issue as an amusing, though instructive, book—is published by the Fleming H. Revell Company, price 3s. 6d.

Books and Pamphlets Received.

THE CHILDREN OF THE NATION. Sir John E. Gorst. (Methuen. 7s.)
FRENCH LAW AND CUSTOMS FOR THE ANGLO-SAXON: A GUIDE FOR EVERYDAY USE. Arthur S. Browne. (Jordan & Sons. 2s. 6d.)
DEBENTURES AND OTHER CHARGES. Herbert W. Jordan. (Jordan & Sons, Ltd. 6d.)
MONTESSORI SCHOOLS. Jessie White, D.Sc. (London). (Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 1s.)
THE FRAUD OF FEMINISM. E. Belfort Bax. (Grant Richards. 2s. 6d.)
CONFLICTING IDEALS: TWO SIDES OF THE WOMAN'S QUESTION. B. L. Hutchins. (Thomas Murby.)
THE SECRET OF A STAR. Eva Martin. (Theosophical Pub. House, Adjar, Madras.)
REGION OF LUTANY. Winifred Ellerman. (Chapman & Hall. 1s. 6d.)
STORIES FROM THE CHILDREN'S REALM. George Bedborough. (Vegetarian Federal Union. 6d.)
WHAT IS WOMANLY? Lawrence Housman. (W.F.S. 4d.)
LIBERAL CANT. Eunice G. Murray. (W.F.S. 1d.)
PREJUDICES OLD AND NEW. Eunice G. Murray. (Scottish Council W.F.S. 1d.)

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NOTICE.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

Specialising Human Beings.

It is the vice of aristocratic government to specialise its citizens. It is, perhaps, the vice of democracy to aim at making its citizens too much alike. But the emphasis, if too great, has a healthy motive, for the likeness desired is at bottom only a recognition of our common humanity. Our likeness is to be in this, that we are all to be allowed to be human first, and soldiers—labourers—professors—Cabinet Ministers —second. Aristocratic government is apt to forget this claim. It specialises. It regards the fact that a man is a "gentleman" as of so vast an importance as death itself could not destroy. "The Almighty," said a French aristocrat, "would think twice before damning a gentleman!" And he and his like were at pains to compose a coat-of-arms for Adam, who had to be recognised as the first of ancestors, and for the Founder of the Christian religion before He could honourably be worshipped.

Mr. Wells's "First Man in the Moon" shows us the complete aristocratic and specialised state. One man is specialised for government; he is nothing but an enormous brain. Another is designed to be a porter; a colossal arm is practically all that is left of him. It seemed sensible to fit each person for his place in society, and yet, complains Mr. Wells, to see the process —and the result—gave one a curious sense of something maimed and wasted. The "something" was the human being; he was maimed and wasted in order to produce the perfect porter.

No one who considers human history will believe that the desire to fit the man to the convenience of Society has died. Perhaps it never will die. But, though we may for ever fall into this error about other people, and think of their education, their needs, their qualities, from the point of view of the use we want to make of them, most of us resent the process applied to ourselves. It is for this reason more than any other, that all classes now demand a share in the government that rules their lives. They are not content to be specialised into various kinds of workers. They want to be human beings, and they are succeeding in this high ambition.

But we are still a half-baked democracy, and still specialised—not, indeed, into a ruling class, but into a ruling sex. The same determination to specialise exists still for those who are unenfranchised. Men are allowed to be human beings; women are to be trained, educated, restricted to one use—motherhood. It seems sensible . . . but it gives one a sense of "something maimed and wasted."

The moment that working-men began to express with determination their desire and intention to be human before they were workers, they were told that they were lazy and conceited, and thought themselves too good for their work. Perhaps they did; perhaps in some cases they were too good for it. But this was not really the point, for the more deeply a man reverences humanity, the more also he will respect work, and take a pride in the work he does himself, if it is work that anyone *can* take pride in. And so it is with women. No sooner had they begun to express a desire to be human beings before they were mothers,

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than there arose a howl at the "movement to cast contempt on motherhood." There are people in the world who say, and therefore must be supposed to believe, that the Conciliation Bill was a deliberate attempt on the part of Suffragists to penalise marriage! Regardless of the fact that men, and not women, determined the municipal franchise in such a way as to "penalise" the wife; regardless of the fact that no Suffragist ever asked for this Bill, but that, accepting it as a *pis aller*, the married were not a whit behind the unmarried in their assurance that it was a good deal better than no Bill at all; critics continue to call heaven to witness that Suffragists despise the duties of motherhood, and if they are allowed to have their way, will be wholly unfit to fulfil them.

It is against this absurdity that we protest. We do think that the humanity of a woman is a greater and a wider thing even than her maternity, and we resent the suggestion that women are mothers first, and human beings afterwards. And for this reason we resent the attempt to restrict their duties and their rights to the fulfilment of this single service. We think Society has no right to specialise them in this way, or—because their services are necessary—to deny them other rights and other scope for a more many-sided and human development.

But in saying this first and most emphatically, we claim that we do what is best for motherhood as well as womanhood. The plan of specialising human beings to their work is, we hold, in the end, as bad for the work as for the human beings. And, though the modern woman insists that her humanity is greater even than her maternity, she believes that, for this very reason, the work of motherhood will be better done when her claim to full human freedom is conceded.

Look at the facts. In Oriental countries, where the limitation of women to the home is most complete, mortality among children is very great. The secluded woman—allowed no interest, and no duty but her children—brings up two or three out of a family of eight or nine, and is quite up to the average. Of course, no race could bear such a loss as this if it were common to all classes; but it is only the women of the rich who can be kept in complete seclusion, and supported without doing any work except that of bearing or rearing children. When, however, this is possible and is done, infant mortality is frightful. It is not too much to say it diminishes in proportion to the freedom, scope, and responsibility given to women.

A country like Chili, with an almost ideal climate, loses 320 per thousand of its babies under one year old. Spain, with its half-Oriental traditions, loses 200 per thousand. Germany, whose women are often held up as models to the freer, more independent Englishwoman, loses 178 per thousand. The rate decreases rapidly with a wider and freer conception of woman's sphere. In Norway and in Sweden, the rate is only 76 and 85 per thousand. Norway has enfranchised its women, and public opinion in Sweden is advanced so far that a Women's Suffrage Bill has already been introduced by the Government, and passed the Lower House, though it was defeated in the Upper House. It will, of course, be re-introduced, and its passage is only a matter of time.

In Great Britain, where women, though still without the political vote, take an increasingly active part in public life, and especially in local government, the infant death-rate has gone down to 96 per thousand. Still more remarkable has been the decline in Australia and New Zealand, where women have full political rights, and stand on an equal footing with men. The rate in New Zealand was 104 per thousand thirty years ago; it is now fifty-seven—the lowest in the world. The rate in Australia comes next, ranging between 65 per thousand in Tasmania, and 78 per thousand in Western Australia. It was 184 per thousand in Western Australia in 1896! In Canada, on the other hand, the rate is almost stationary: it was 125 per thousand in 1899 (the first year recorded), and is now 124.

We do not pretend that the political enfranchisement of women is a kind of conjuring-trick, which will in a moment reduce our infant death-rate. That is the kind of idiocy that no one believes outside a lunatic asylum. We do claim that the greater the freedom and responsibility given to women, the better—and not the worse—it is for their children. The wider outlook, the larger responsibility, the educated intelligence all make for nobler, more efficient motherhood. Women have used their freedom and their power to protect child life and motherhood, not only with devotion, but with wisdom. But cramped, confined, "specialised" to motherhood alone, all their devotion has not sufficed to keep their children alive.

[*Note.*—These figures are taken from the 72nd Report of the Registrar General.]

Legal Disabilities of Wives and Mothers.

The wife was regarded by the old English law as attached to the husband for his own purposes. He could beat her, he could dispose of some of her property absolutely, and of the rest of it for his life, and he inherited in the same way all of which she did not dispose by will; his consent was required to her contracts for the alienation of her property, and to her will; he could compel her to bear him children whenever he pleased, and the control of the education of the children was vested in him alone. Some of these privileges have gone, but all which have not been directly abolished remain in accordance with the general legal principle that a statute or judicial decision must be taken to abolish only so much of existing law as is directly within its compass.

The status of the English wife is not independence, but mitigated subjection. The husband's right of chastisement went in the reign of Charles II. Equity protected legacies and gifts to the wife from the end of the eighteenth century, and the two Married Women's Property Acts of 1870 and 1882 declared that, after January 1st, 1883, every wife should have the same control over her earnings and property as a single woman, and should be able to alienate it during her life and by her will without the interference of her husband. In 1891, the case of "Regina *v.* Jackson," decided that a husband who had been deserted by his wife could not seize her again by force and imprison her in his house, but only a year or two before, the case of "Regina *v.* Clarence" had confirmed, so far as it was legally possible, the vilest of a husband's privileges, his right to compel his wife to submit to intercourse with him whenever he pleased.

The existing disabilities of the wife may be divided generally into marital, proprietary, and parental. All arise out of the ancient conception of a wife as an incident to her husband. She has no legal right to any part of his earnings, however valuable to him her services in the house may be. She has a vague right to maintenance, but can only enforce this by going into the workhouse, and thus compelling the Guardians to take proceedings against him. It has even been decided that if, by good management she saves money out of her housekeeping allowance, the accumulations remain his property. The worst of the marital disabilities is the encouragement given by the Divorce Act of 1857 to male vice. The husband may divorce his wife for adultery, but, while she can divorce him for an unnatural offence, the most open and notorious adultery on his part, unless it is accompanied by cruelty or desertion, gives her nothing except the opportunity of displaying that patience and readiness to forgive which men have long regarded as the chief of feminine virtues. This hardship, after nearly sixty years of fruitless protest, has been unanimously condemned by a Royal Commission. It will probably not be remedied until women are enfranchised, though the recent White Slave Traffic Act shows with what ferocious zeal a male Parliament may legislate in favour of women when women use its neglect as an argument in favour of Women's Suffrage. This provision of the law, coupled with the decision in "Regina *v.* Clarence," degrades marriage in its physical aspect, to the lowest depths. The Statute will sooner or later be amended. The case, like the evidence of Lord Mersey before the Divorce Commission, is a matter of ethics rather than of law, and only shows how men may attain to the highest positions in the judiciary without abating any of their natural coarseness in their views of women.

The proprietary disabilities, since 1882, are few. A woman can earn money when and as she pleases, and the "International Council of Women's Handbook" is not correct in suggesting that her husband's consent is in any way necessary. Her earnings, like legacies and gifts, are entirely free from the control of her husband, and she is so far put on an equality with him that she may be liable, to the extent of her separate property, for the cost of his maintenance as a pauper. Her remaining disabilities are connected with the law of inheritance. If she dies intestate he takes her real estate, if an heir has been born, for his life, and her other property absolutely. But the old rules of dower were abolished in 1834, and a capricious husband may deprive his widow of the least possible fraction of his estate. If he dies intestate, she may have her dower, or a life interest in one-third of his real estate, if a child capable of inheriting the estate has been born, unless he has taken the precaution of declaring in some deed that she shall not have it. Of his personalty she takes the first £500, and in addition, if there are no children, half, and if there are children, one-third of the estate. She is thus in a safer position if her husband dies intestate, than if he makes a will. His power to disinherit her completely is not

merely a manifestation of legal maleness, it is part of the general legal reluctance to interfere with the individual's control of his property. But it seems only reasonable to provide that the person who has given up her chances of earning an independent livelihood, in order to render to him the duties of a wife, mother, and housekeeper, should be treated with special indulgence by the law. If he is bound to maintain her during his life, why should he be permitted to reduce her to destitution after his death? In the ordinary case, the widow is a person of middle or old age, to whom ordinary occupations are closed. It seems peculiarly just that the man who is primarily responsible for her having undertaken a "blind-alley" occupation, such as marriage is for most women, should be bound by law to see, so far as he can, that she is left in a safe position.

It is in the control of the family that the maleness of the law exalts the husband most. Naturally, everything seems to assign this function to the wife and mother. Her association with their common children is almost invariably closer than his, her knowledge of their characters must be more intimate, the degree to which she can influence their development is consequently much greater. The mother has the formal custody of them to the seventh year. Then the law distorts all the courses of nature, and hands over the control of the children to the father. So jealous is it of his authority that, unless he is guilty of some grossly immoral conduct in the presence of the children themselves, it will not deprive him of any part of it. He cannot, even by the most solemn bargain with his wife, bind himself legally to leave the matter in her hands. The "International Council's Handbook" is wrong on that point also. In 1878 was decided the case of "Agar-Ellis *v.* Lascelles." A Protestant husband had formally agreed with his Catholic wife, before the marriage took place, that the children should be brought up in the wife's faith. Fifteen years later, he claimed to have the agreement set aside, and Vice Chancellor Malins, supported by the Court of Appeal, upheld his claim. The Vice-Chancellor solemnly declared that the wife seemed to have forgotten that "by the laws of England, by the laws of Christianity, and by the constitution of society, when there is a difference of opinion between husband and wife, it is the duty of the wife to submit to the husband." This case is still law, and can only be overruled by the House of Lords.

The same view of the relative values of father and mother regulates the law of guardianship. The father, not the mother, is held to be the natural guardian of the children. If he dies first, he can appoint a guardian to act with the mother. If she dies first, a guardian appointed by her can only act if the husband consents, and even this qualified right was not conferred upon her until the Custody of Infants Act became law in 1886. So the judges always act where they have jurisdiction. In 1893, a Protestant guardian was appointed by the Court to act with a Roman Catholic mother, because the father had been a Protestant. In an older case, the Court directed that a child should be brought up in the father's religion where he had died intestate and had left no directions on the point. There is an old maxim that "Parliament can do everything except make a man a woman or a woman a man." In determining the rights of husband and wife in their claims to control their children, the law seems to have forgotten the limits even of the maxim. It cannot make the man bear the children, and if it could make him undertake such a laborious task, it probably would not. But, from the moment of birth it keeps the mother in the background. From vaccination to education, the management of child life is vested by nature in woman, and by English law in man.

W. Lyon Blease, Barrister-at-Law.

A NEW "COMMON CAUSE" POSTER.

Considerable demand exists for a permanent Common Cause poster, and we are now stocking one which we believe will meet all needs. It is 18 inches by 15 (price 1d.), and is printed in scarlet. The permanent letterpress is as on the ordinary posters ("Common Cause" at the top, "National Union" at the foot). The bugler-girl is on the right, and on the left is a space in which can appear a stencilled announcement of news likely to be of local interest. Any of the contents of the current number which specially appeal to those to whom, perhaps, the poster issued weekly from this office does not appeal might usefully appear. If the stencilling is done in green, the N.U. colours will be complete.

[*Books of Reference.*—"The Rights and Wrongs of Women," by Ralph Thicknesse (Woman Citizen Publishing Society); "Woman under the Law," by W. B. Earengay (Wm. Conquest & Sons); "The Status of Woman, 1066—1909" by A. B. and M. Wallis Chapman (Routledge).]

Jewelry.

The movement of women towards liberty and full emancipation presses forward on all sides in every quarter of the globe. It is not a tide, for it will not recede, neither is it an invasion, for it brings blessings and no curse to the nations. It is a great movement of humanity, an evolution towards a truer ideal, an awakening of sleepers, a stirring of the sap of life. Its pioneers are everywhere. Far, far away beside the rice-swamps of China, the mother takes the bandages from her feet and joyfully confronts the agony of emancipation. Here, in England, woman after woman feels the call in her blood and rises quietly, casting aside the ancient bonds of convention, to take her true place in the marching regiments of the human race. In the words of the ancient prophecy, you cannot say lo! it is here—or, lo! it is there, this movement of life, for it is everywhere. You cannot exhaust its resources, they are ever renewed; you cannot use up its momentum, for each year new energies are born.

We stand on the threshold of 1914, looking forward to another year of struggle, another year of brave endeavour and irresistible advance, ere we win the vantage ground of political recognition which cannot much longer be denied us. And for this year we need money, as we have needed it every year—large sums of money.

In 1913 we handled at the headquarters of the Union, roughly speaking, £25,000;* for 1914, maybe we must find £30,000 for our Central Funds. We can do it because we are prepared for sacrifice and because none can turn back those who passionately desire liberty.

Litle more than a hundred years ago, Napoleon had beaten Prussia to her knees. He had depopulated her country, broken her armies, drained her treasure, and held her, as he thought, in the hollow of his hand. But he miscalculated. His cold and reasonable mind could not realize the power and intensity of a national passion. While he thought her passive under his rule she was, in truth, struggling to her feet. She was educating, drilling, pinching and saving; every man and woman inspired, as it would seem, by a spiritual purpose, uncalculating in devotion, and surpassing all limit of comfortable reason. The regiments were depleted—then the boys and the old men would fill up the ranks; there were no men for the labour of the fields—then the women must add this work to the sacred task of rearing the new nation. The treasury was empty—then by the sacrifice of the women's gold the coffers must be filled. In every country, and in all ages, women, poor in most personal possessions, have their ornaments. When, in 1813, the great national endeavour culminated in the victory of Leipzig, there can have been few women in Prussia who were decked any longer with gold or jewels. Instead of the ancient bravery, Court ladies and peasants alike wore upon their necks and arms, upon their fingers as wedding-rings, the iron jewelry of Berlin. The gold had gone into the melting pot, the pearls and precious stones had been sold to the merchants, and in their place—these priceless decorations—the black iron ornaments of stamped metal and twisted wire were handed down to posterity.

As little as Napoleon undersood the force he was pitted against when he set out to destroy a nationality, so little do our present rulers comprehend the forces they fancy may be exhausted, and the enthusiasms they hope by delay to extinguish. The hope is vain. More women will subscribe to our movement in Britain during 1914 than have ever subscribed before; greater efforts will be made by tried friends, and greater sacrifices of money by old subscribers. We prepare for our Leipzig. If Prussia asked for the gold of her daughters, Britain may ask it also—for their own campaign. What holocausts of jewels have been laid at the feet of liberty; and in return for all these votive offerings of wives and mothers, the Goddess has conferred freedom upon their sons, reserving for them and for their daughters the chains of domestic subjection. Let us, for our own liberty, spare no treasure when it is needed. There are those who can give jewelry when they have no money to spare, and giving it for so high a purpose may feel that it is handed to posterity, transmuted in the melting pot into a crown for Freedom.

*If we add all the sums which have been raised by the local Societies in the Union the total would exceed £45,000.

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NORTH-WEST DURHAM BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: **G. H. Stuart,** *Labour.*
Aneurin Williams, *Liberal.*
J. Ogden Hardicker, *Conservative.*
Liberal Majority at last election, 4,171.
Organiser in Charge: **Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A., 013, Front St., Consett.**

MR. STUART'S ELECTION ADDRESS.

The Suffrage Question.

"I am in favour of removing the sex disability and extending the Suffrage to every adult, man and woman, and am opposed to any scheme of extending the Suffrage which does not include women. I see nothing but harm from withholding the vote from at least half the adult population, as would be the case in the event of the Suffrage being extended to include male adults only."

So unequivocally the Labour candidate states his position. We are particularly glad to see him declare for the removal of the sex disability, as well as for the larger demand of Adult Suffrage, and the emphasis he lays on his opposition to Manhood Suffrage is very encouraging. No man who votes Labour can fail to realise how deeply he is committed to the Suffrage cause; but we have every reason to believe that Mr. Stuart's courageous stand on the question will do him nothing but good with the electors.

The Addresses of the Other Candidates.

Mr. Hardicker's address is out and, whilst dealing with almost every other conceivable question (being three or four times as long as Mr. Stuart's), omits any mention whatever of Women's Suffrage, although he says that he is a supporter. Mr. Williams's address is not yet to hand.

The Campaign.

Meanwhile the campaign goes merrily on. It is delightful to see the enthusiasm of the Labour men, "pawing the ground for work" (as Miss Sheard reports of the fifty men of her committee in the Quebec district). In one district of 900 electors, 300 are on the Labour Committee! The remaining 600 should have plenty of attention paid to them! Probably the National Union has never been so useful in any previous election as it is now, when the knowledge and experience of its trained organisers is being put at the service of the candidate whom it is supporting. As a rule, although a certain number of experienced election workers can be secured, many districts have to be left in the charge of people who, though zealous and willing, have no previous experience to guide them. This difficulty is now obviated, and a most efficient machine is getting to work. Cheering reports come in from every side, and our hopes rise daily.

Our women sub-agents also tell us that they have never had so good an opportunity of reaching the women as they have under this system of work. They make a point of becoming acquainted with the wives of all the men on the Committee, most of whom are, or readily become, keen Suffragists, and the nucleus of a future Suffrage Society is thus formed.

Meetings.

We continue to hold only an occasional separate meeting on our own account, but to send a speaker to represent the Union at practically every Labour meeting. At first some of us feared that we might not, in this way, get the women to come to the meetings to the same extent as in previous elections. But this prophecy has been falsified. The advertisement of a Suffrage speaker, and the special invitation to "all men and women" is sufficient, and, as a rule, they flock to the meetings. Their enthusiasm is evidenced by the extraordinary number of "photo-cards" of Mr. Stuart which are already to be seen in the cottage windows. The woman generally controls the window, and her goodwill is necessary for this display.

The Suffrage speakers always have a fine reception—generally their very advent is the signal for rounds of applause, and their arguments always meet with a sympathetic response. The homely illustrations which the women use seem to touch the men as well as the women, and to arouse their enthusiasm in a way that speeches on other subjects seldom do. And the speakers, of course, link up their Suffrage appeal with other items in the Labour programme, till the scale is turned, and the stubborn voter yields. Miss Robertson was told after a meeting on Saturday, that she had converted many voters, amongst them one old man of seventy, who had voted Conservative all his life, but was now pledged to vote Labour.

The Labour colours here, as in Lanarkshire, are red, white, and green, so the Labour men take an additional pleasure in wearing the Suffrage button, though it is, of course, worn by men and women of the other parties as well. Many hundreds of these buttons have been sold. Certainly it will run into thousands before the fight is over. We are especially delighted to note how the Labour men are encouraging their women folk to come out and take an interest in politics. "They scrub up too much!" the men say—and one of them has even shown his practical sympathy with the woman's lot by undertaking the scrubbing of the yard, that she may have more time!

We are very much scattered in this election, the sub-agents being planted down in their respective districts; but all the speakers live in Consett, and take their meals at Stobbs's Café. The Misses Stobbs are enthusiastic Suffragists, and gather in "Friends" daily, as well as selling Suffrage buttons by the score to their customers. "I'm going to get just as many as ever I can to join!" said one of them.

Suffrage is popular—there is no doubt of that—and Mr. Stuart is popular—he makes headway wherever he goes. Most of us have never been in so hopeful a Labour fight. We are looking for victory, and we appeal to all N.U. members to help us to win it by sending donations towards the heavy expenses, and by setting aside their motor-cars for use on polling-day, January 30th.

To those who have sent money already, we send our heartiest thanks.

Song written by Mr. William Skurr, of Quebec, to be sung to the tune of "Alexandra's Rag-time Band."

"Hallo you men!
Trade Union men!
Come along and join our band!
Hallo you men!
Trade Union men!
Come along and join our band!
It is up to do more good
Than the others ever would.
So come along you Durham boys,
And make it understood
That Labour men you're going to be.
Now then boys,
Hurrah for Stuart!
Hurrah for Stuart!
He's the best man of the three.
Send him along!
Send him along!
To help both you and me,
And if you want to get the kind of laws there should be
Come on and vote!
Come on and vote!
And we'll make him Stuart M.P.!"

SOUTH BUCKS BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: **Mr. Tonman Mosley,** *Liberal.*
Mr. Baring du Pre, *Unionist.*
Organiser-in-Charge: Miss Dora Mason.
Committee Rooms:
High Wycombe:—3, Creadon Street. Miss Mason in charge.
Slough:—115, High Street. Mrs. Robie Uniacke in charge.
Speakers and Workers:—Mrs. Berney, Miss Parker, Miss Wright, and other members of the High Wycombe Society; Miss Courtauld, and other members of the Mid-Bucks Society; Mrs. Dixon Davies, Mrs. Earp, Miss Ashton Jones, Miss Power, and Miss Scott.

The first great event of the campaign will be the meeting in the Town Hall, High Wycombe, arranged for Friday, January 30th, with Miss Maude Royden and Miss Courtney as speakers. Till then the workers in Wycombe are devoting themselves to preliminary meetings, indoor and out, in the town and its outlying districts, while Mrs. Uniacke and Miss Courtauld are organising meetings in Slough and Amersham.

In his speech on the occasion of his adoption as candidate, Mr. Mosley declared himself a "firm believer in the justice of the claim for female suffrage," and made a strong statement in support of his belief. He receives a deputation on Wednesday. No reply has yet been received from Mr. du Pre.

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(THE MEDICAL MAGAZINE)

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.

Secretary:
MISS CROOKENDEN.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1980 Victoria.

Albert Hall Demonstration.

Those who have not yet bought tickets for the Albert Hall Demonstration cannot afford to sit still and dream about them any longer. All the five-shilling tickets are sold, and very few half-crown tickets are left. There is still a chance of getting a box, however. A box in the second tier can be had for 12s. 6d. or 10s., and will hold a cosy party of five—clearly both an economical and a delightful arrangement.

This is going to be one of the finest Albert Hall demonstrations we have had, and no Suffragist who can be in London on Saturday, February 14th, should miss coming to it. Mr. Robert Smillie, President of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, is the latest addition to the list of speakers. When it is remembered how large a part of this country is, in Mr. Hilaire Belloc's striking phrase, "a mining camp," the importance of the support of the miners and their leaders for our cause is very evident. Mr. Smillie, who has made himself as popular among Suffragists as he is among miners, was one of the speakers at the great Suffragist meeting held in connection with the Annual Conference of the Miners' Federation at Scarborough, last October, when a suffrage resolution was seconded by Mr. W. Brace, M.P., "on behalf of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain," and was carried by an overwhelming majority. Mr. Smillie will have a warm welcome at the Albert Hall, and among his admirers will be the representatives of many Trade Unions and other men's organisations, which are responding magnificently to our invitation to attend the demonstration.

Members are reminded that the presence of a large number of individual men will also be an important feature of this meeting. Thousands of men will be only too glad to show their support in this way if the opportunity is brought to their notice, and members should write to the office for copies of Mrs. Fawcett's letter of invitation, and distribute them as widely as possible.

The demonstration will be preceded by the annual Council Meeting, which will be held in the Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, and will last from the morning of Thursday, February 12th, till midday on the 14th. Delegates from the 474 societies now enrolled in the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies will be present from all parts of England, Scotland, and Wales. The annual report of the work and organisation of the Union will be read and discussed, and the internal and election policy for the coming year will be debated.

The London Society has undertaken to provide hospitality, as far as possible, for delegates, and those who have not yet found quarters should apply to Miss Strachey, 58, Victoria Street.

Press Report.

The articles which have been written in connection with our Educational Campaign on problems affecting women and children in England, and the manner in which enfranchised countries and States have dealt and are dealing with these, have been very well received by the Press both in London and the Provinces. The most notable of these articles is one which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* on December 24th, under the heading of "The Child and the State," showing the need of legislation for children under school age, and the importance of giving women more than an advisory voice in dealing with so vital a problem. The *Evening Standard* has published an article on "What Women do with the Vote" and the *London Budget* one on "Wages and Legislation—The Need for the Protection of the Vote." Articles have appeared in the *Daily Citizen*, on "Infant Mortality and Legislative Measures," and "Housing and Infant Mortality," and in the *Church Family Newspaper* on the "Deficient Child."

Conspicuous among the London papers which have lately had articles on the Women's Suffrage Movement is the *Daily News and Leader*, which on New Year's Day contained an article by Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., on "The Woman of To-morrow," and also one by Mr. Israel Zangwill on "Woman a Citizen." On January 13th, a long article on the "Demand for a Government Measure," by Mrs. Fawcett, was inserted,

which is particularly valuable in view of the reported intention by Suffragist Members of Parliament to ballot for yet another Private Member's Bill.

The National Union Review of the past year has been excellently reported in the provinces, and, despite its necessarily long form, was inserted in full in the *Gloucester Citizen*, *Yorkshire Herald*, *Yorkshire Post*, *Scotsman*, *Newcastle Daily Journal*, and many others. The *Tonbridge Free Press* also gave a very good report.

We should once more like to draw the attention of Suffragists to the column appearing in the *Daily Telegraph* every Tuesday, under the heading of "Women in Public Life." This week an interesting article, entitled "Physicians of Crime," deals with women's work in connection with prisons and reformatories.

Report of Literature Committee.

The fourth leaflet on the disabilities of women which has been issued in connection with the educational campaign is now ready. It is "Parliament and Women in Industry" (B 107, price 6d. per 100), and is full of striking illustrations. Other leaflets are "Women and the Empire" (B 109), "Workers Unite" (B 110), and "Votes for Mothers" (B 111). The first of the three effectively answers the question "Women have nothing to do with the Empire," the second is addressed to Trade Unionists, and the third introduces the housing question. The price of the last three leaflets is 4d. per 100.

Treasurer's Notes.

Mrs. Fawcett's appeal for a Women's Suffrage Mandate Fund, only issued at the beginning of this month, has met with an immediate and enthusiastic response. Besides promises, quite a large number of donations, both large and small, have already been received. Nevertheless, if the Mandate Fund is to suffice for the needs of the vast campaign we contemplate, and for the work that must be done in the present year, every member of the Union must help to swell the total which it is intended to announce at the Albert Hall meeting.

In case anyone should be inclined to cavil at the proposal to devote 20 per cent. of the Mandate Fund to the work of the London Society within the London area, I would remind any possible critic, that whereas on this occasion London may benefit to the extent of 20 per cent. of the contributions of country members, the Headquarters' Funds, which are raised on behalf of the country, will benefit to the extent of 80 per cent. of all the money subscribed by London members. This arrangement has been arrived at after the most careful deliberation, and is made with a just regard to the proportion of the membership of the London Society to that of the whole Union, and to the probable share which Londoners will take in helping to raise this Fund. I am confident that in the present instance Suffragists in all parts of the Kingdom will vie with one another in generosity, in accordance with the fine traditions which have been built up, year by year, in our Union.

Many of the donations sent us have been accompanied by expressions of appreciation and encouragement for the work that we are doing. These kindly messages are too numerous to quote separately, but they have been received at Headquarters with heartfelt gratitude as an additional assurance of the loyal co-operation, the fellowship, sympathy, unity, and goodwill which make up the invincible strength of our Union.

HELENA AUERBACH.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st 1913	818	6	4
Received, January 13th to 19th :—			
Subscriptions.			
Miss C. Cochrane		10	0
Miss E. M. Greg	5	5	0
Colonel and Mrs Blathwayt ...	2	2	0
Mrs. Bamfield	1	0	0
Miss K. B Brereton		10	6
Mrs. Chas. T. Mitchell ...	1	0	0
Miss Jessie Milsted		2	6
Affiliation Fees.			
Gerrard's Cross W.S.S. ...		12	6
Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association	1	1	0
Pershore W.S.S.		12	6
Cupar W.S.S.	1	18	0
Stone W.S.S.		6	3
Houghton-le-Spring W.S.S. ...		7	6
Oldham W.S.S.	3	15	0
Camberley and District W.S.S.	1	0	0
Pickering W.S.S.		5	0
Woking W.S.S.	1	5	9
Brighton and Hove W.S.S. ...	5	7	3
Dingwall W.S.S.		5	0
Stranraer W.S.S.	1	5	0
New Silksworth W.S.S.		7	6
Subscription to Information Bureau.			
Worcester W.S.S.	1	1	0
Mrs. Deane Streatfeild	1	1	0
	£849	6	7

Election Fighting Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913	475	13	0
Mrs. Soulsby (N.W. Durham By-election)		5	0
Per Miss Gordon— Mrs. Heitland (N.W. Durham By-election)	5	0	0
Miss Robson (N.W. Durham By-election)	1	0	0
Miss Margaret F Pugh (N.W. Durham By-election)	10	0	0
	£491	18	0

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Buy the Royal Primrose Soap from the Suffrage Shop, 54, Long Row, Nottingham. Send for Price List and Samples. All profits to the cause.

News from the Societies and Federations.

Correspondents are urged to send in their reports not later than the Monday morning (first post) before the date on which they are due to appear.

West of England Federation.

EAST BRISTOL.—On December 19th Mr. W. Bottomley addressed a meeting on Women's Suffrage at the Morley Street Institute. Six "Friends."

On January 13th a social and concert were held in the Christ Church Schools, Barton Hill, Councillor W. H. Ayles, Labour candidate for Bristol (East), in the Chair. After tea, which was kindly given by various members and friends, a varied and interesting programme was presented, including some charming and spirited dances by Baby Esme, songs by Miss Pride and Miss V. Bach, and the well-known duologue, "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," by Mrs. H. Hicks and Miss Hancock. Several competitions, including hat-trimming (for men only), potato races, and candle-lighting, added much to the evening's amusement; and also the proceeds, which totalled £3. During intervals in the programme Councillor Ayles and Miss Tothill delivered addresses urging their hearers to join the Suffrage cause.

CAMPDEN (GLOS.).—A public meeting was held here in the Town Hall on January 14th. Lady Blomfield presided over a large attendance, and Miss Geraldine Cooke and Miss Smyth-Pigott (Catholic W.S.S.) spoke. A resolution demanding a Government measure was carried with only two dissentients. Votes of thanks to the speakers and Lady Blomfield were moved and seconded by the Rev. F. W. Cresswell and the Rev. P. Lewis; the Rev. J. Evans and Miss Harwood.

GLOUCESTER.—Report for January—November, 1913. Seven committee meetings held. Four meetings for members and "Friends," at two of which Miss Maude Royden spoke; while the others were addressed by Miss Baretti and Miss H. Fraser. Thirty-eight members took part in the Pilgrimage by going over to Cheltenham to support the open-air meeting there. Three members attended the Demonstration in Hyde Park on July 26th. A donation of £10 10s. was sent to Headquarters towards the Pilgrimage Fund.

Meetings are being arranged for members of the City Trade Unions, with Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., and Miss Muriel Matters as speakers.

PORTISHEAD.—FORMATION OF NEW SOCIETY. A meeting was held on January 7th, by kind invitation of Mrs. Hall, to form a Society. As there have been for a long time strong supporters of the movement in the place, notably the late Dr. Wigan, the outlook is very hopeful. Miss Tanner (Chairman) and Miss Ballantine were present. They represented the Federation, and explained the policy and methods of work of the N.U. Mrs. Hall was chosen President, and Miss Butterworth (Woodlands), Hon. Sec. The Society starts with twenty-seven members.

TEWKESBURY.—A joint meeting with the C. and U. W. F. A. was held at The Abbey Schoolroom on January 12th, when Mrs. Grice Hutchinson and Lady Maud Parry kindly acted as hostesses. Dr. Sloan Chesser presided, and Lady Maud Parry and Dr. Alice Burn (Cheltenham) spoke. There was a fair attendance and a resolution demanding a Government measure was carried unanimously. Votes of thanks were moved and seconded by Miss Kelly (C.U.W.F.A.) and Miss Tanner. The proceedings terminated with a performance of "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," and a short social with refreshments. Several members joined both Societies, and literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Much of the success of the evening was due to the untiring energy of Miss Kelly.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Miss Ballantine recently called on the Presidents, Secretaries, and other representatives of Trade Councils, Trade Unions, and Labour Associations. She was successful in gaining promises from all to consider the sending of delegates to the Albert Hall Demonstration; to introduce a Suffrage resolution at their meetings; and also to endeavour to convene a joint meeting to hear a Suffrage speaker.

WINCHCOMBE AND DISTRICT.—By kind permission of Mrs. Springfield, the third annual meeting of this Branch was held at The Bays, Winchcombe, on December 12th. The President, Dr. Earengey, was in the Chair. After the report and balance-sheet had been read and adopted, the future work of the Branch was discussed. In view of the fact that considerable apathy upon all political questions prevails in country districts half-way between two General Elections, and that a certain section of local public opinion has not yet completely recovered from the irritation aroused by the Militants' campaign of arson, it was decided to postpone for some months any attempt to get up a large public meeting, and, for the moment, to concentrate upon quiet propaganda work—*e.g.*, the distribution of leaflets explaining the distinction between the constitutional and the militant movemens, the enrolling of "Friends," and the holding of drawing-room or garden meetings. It was agreed that a special effort should be made to arouse the villages of the district to sympathise with the Suffrage cause. At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Springfield and Miss Jordan were elected co-secretaries, in the place of Misses Livens (resigned), Mr. Roberts was chosen local president in the place of Miss Sexty (resigned). The Committee was re-elected, with the addition of three new members.

WINSCOMBE.—During the past year the Society has made substantial progress in the work of converting the indifferent. Not only have many local meetings been held, but Winscombe members have come into more direct relationship with the main body of the organisation. For the first time, two Committee members attended the Council meetings in London—a stimulating experience—and during the Pilgrimage members were brought into contact with keen Suffragists of the West and South of England.

During the period October, 1912—October, 1913, eight meetings were held by the Winscombe Society, including a big open-air meeting on July 12th in connection with the Pilgrimage. The last event of the Suffrage year was the "Market" at Bird's Assembly Rooms on October 8th, at which the sum of £44 was cleared.

West Riding (Yorks) Federation.

BRADFORD.—At the "Christmas Fair" held last month at the Office, 5, Elden Place, £62 was realised for the Society's work during 1914. The Fair was opened by Mrs. Bernheim.

Early in the month Miss Thompson visited the Trade Unions of the city, but as Bradford has a larger number of Unions than any other town of its size, she was only able to do a small portion of the work, which is, however, being followed up. Miss Wright has addressed the Society of Warp-dressers, and the Amalgamated Association of Engineers has passed a vote in favour of Women's Suffrage. Several of the Society's speakers are on winter programmes of young people's unions in Sunday Schools. Letters are being sent to clergymen of all denominations, asking them to preach a special sermon on the "Women's Movement," the Rev. V. Pomeroy having already set an example. The Rev. H. E. Hawkes, Lidget Green Congregational Church, also preached on the "Women's Movement" on January 18th. Miss Hoey, one of our members, has made twenty Friends of Women's Suffrage. Will all other members try to be "missionaries" in the same way?

On January 6th Miss Elkin addressed the Salem Young People's Union, many "Anti's" being converted and seven "Friends" made.

On January 12th Mrs. Swanwick addressed a crowded meeting at the Office, 5, Eldon Place, and was greatly appreciated. Six copies of her book were sold and seven copies of THE COMMON CAUSE, the collection being £2. Some new members were made and badges sold. Mr. F. Jowett, M.P., was in the Chair, and the resolution demanding a Government measure, which was seconded by Mrs. Grattan Newboult, was carried unanimously.

On January 13th Mrs. Swanwick addressed the League of Young Liberals, and an interesting discussion followed.

The Society are endeavouring to raise money for the "Special Mandate Fund" in connection with the Albert Hall demonstration on February 14th. Any contributions received will be sent to Headquarters. We desire to thank our President, Mrs. Alfred Illingworth, for her handsome donation of ten guineas to the fund for delegates' expenses.

HUDDERSFIELD.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, January 6th. Miss Siddon presided. The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Wilmshurst, seconded by Miss Harron, and carried unanimously: "That this meeting urges his Majesty's Government to bring in a Bill to enfranchise women early in the next Session of Parliament." Arrangements were made for delegates to attend the annual meetings to be held in the Horticultural Hall, London, to be followed by a demonstration in the Albert Hall, London, in February, to demand a Government measure for the enfranchisement of women.

LEEDS.—An interesting debate was held in connection with Crossgates Baptist Fellowship Society, on January 6th on "Has Militancy forwarded the Cause of Votes for Women?" The hall was packed with an audience of men and women wholly sympathetic towards the enfranchisement of women, but differing as to methods of propaganda. Miss I. O. Ford spoke from the negative point of view. Many people joined in the discussion. The result gave an overwhelming majority in favour of constitutional methods. Miss I. O. Ford also spoke on January 16th at the Swarthmore Settlement on "Women and War."

SHEFFIELD.—A debate on the Suffrage was announced by the Fulwood Social Guild for January 10th, and we took a good deal of trouble to arrange for speakers. At the last moment, however, owing to "Anti" intervention, the debate was abandoned, without apology.

We are preparing for a Jumble Sale on behalf of our funds; also for a Sale of Work at a later date. We hope to have a visit from Mrs. Fawcett in March.

Kentish Federation.

The Federation sub-Committee will meet at 6, Chesham Place, Belgrave Square, London, at 2.30 p.m., on January 28th. The Federation Committee will meet at the same time and place on February 11th, by kind permission of the Treasurer.

ASHFORD.—The Society is awaiting an organiser, and when she arrives it is proposed to hold a public meeting. The local Editor published a good "Review of 1913."

CANTERBURY.—Monthly meetings are being held, at which a paper is read and discussed. A library has been formed of books treating of Suffrage and economic questions.

CHISLEHURST.—Miss Herring Cowper (Hon. Sec.) will be away till March, when she hopes to arrange a local debate, but at present the Society consists of only twelve members. *The Chislehurst and District Times* reported "The Review" in full.

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DEAL AND WALMER.—Mrs. Clare Royse (Hon. Sec.) has resigned. The local Editor inserted a good "Review of 1913."

FAVERSHAM.—The *Faversham News* and *Faversham Mercury* both published a full report of review of last year's work.

FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE.—Both the local papers are friendly and courteous, but will not insert information which has no local colour without heavy payment, which is out of the question. Lack of helpers makes propaganda work an up-hill task.

HERNE BAY.—The Editor of the local paper was very pleased to insert the review of the year's work. He is himself a member of our Society, and always ready to help by printing Suffrage news. During the last month the membership has increased to sixty, owing to propaganda work. A general meeting will be called early in February; also another social evening is being organised for about the middle of February.

MATFIELD.—Membership for three villages, Brenchley, Matfield, and Pembury, less than twenty. No meetings held or work done since Pilgrimage, owing to illness. An organiser ought to go down.

MARGATE.—Mrs. Chapman is successful in getting a weekly letter into the local paper.

RAMSGATE.—A meeting, which took the form of a social afternoon, was held at Minster-in-Thanet on Wednesday, January 14th. Miss Bertha Kennett, M.A., Headmistress of the Perse Girls' School, Cambridge, was the speaker, and Mrs. Stennett, of Alland Grange, Minster, took the Chair. Many friends attended from Ramsgate, and were deeply interested in Miss Kennett's inspiring address. A large social meeting is arranged for Saturday, January 17th, in the Foresters' Hall, Ramsgate. On this occasion Mrs. Nott-Bower, P.L.G., will give the address, and it is hoped that Sir Francis Vane, of Hutton, will preside. The annual general meeting is fixed for Friday, January 30th, in the Foresters' Hall, when it is hoped a large number of members will make a point of being present.

(Kentish Report to be continued next week.)

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in not later than the Monday before the announcement is to be inserted. Notices must be addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

JANUARY 23

Hampstead—1, Belsize Gardens—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Oliver Strachey—Chair, Mrs. Ronald Garrett 3.30

JANUARY 26.

Chiswick and Bedford Park—12, Bolton Road, Grove Park, Chiswick—Meeting for Working Women—Hostess, Mrs. Campbell—Speaker, Mrs. Arthur Savory 3.0

East Dulwich—46, The Gardens, Peckham Rye—Meeting for Members and "Friends"—Hostess, Mrs. Harvey 7.0

JANUARY 27.

Central Hackney—92, Dalston Lane—Meeting of Unionist Pioneers—Speaker, Mrs. Gimingham, M.A. 8.30

Golder's Green—2, Reynolds Close, Hampstead Way—Members' Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Douglas Garrett—Speakers, Mrs. Oliver Strachey and Mrs. Ronald Garrett 3.30

North and South Paddington—Guardians' Offices, 313-319, Harrow Road—Social Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Ronald Garrett—Suffrage Monologue—Miss Margaret Bussé—Tea and Coffee, Music 8.0

JANUARY 28.

Ealing and Acton—"Ingleside," Edge Hill Road, Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. McBride—Speaker, Mrs. Arthur Savory 3.0

Hammersmith—Gladstone Club, 117, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush—Chair, Mrs. Jewell 3.0

Tower Hill—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Helen Ward and Mr. Groves, J.P. 12.15

JANUARY 29.

East St. Pancras—187, Camden Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Davies—Speaker, Miss J. H. Thomson, M.A. 8.0

South Hackney—Wesleyan Church, Castland Road—Speaker, Mrs. Gimingham, M.A. 8.0

Wandsworth—Primitive Methodist Lecture Hall, High Street—Speaker, Miss Helen Ward—Tea 3.0

JANUARY 30.

East St. Pancras—51, Gordon Square—Hostess, Mrs. Herbert Rendel—Speaker, Mrs. Ford Smith—Chair, Miss Lidgett, P.L.G. 8.30

Provinces.

JANUARY 23.

Birmingham—Youths' Club, Bournville—Speakers, Mrs. Ring and Mr. A. Bayes 8.0

20, Easy Row, Franchise Club—Speaker, Miss Kirby 5.0

Cambridge—71, Panton Street—Speaker, Mrs. A. Hutchinson 8.0

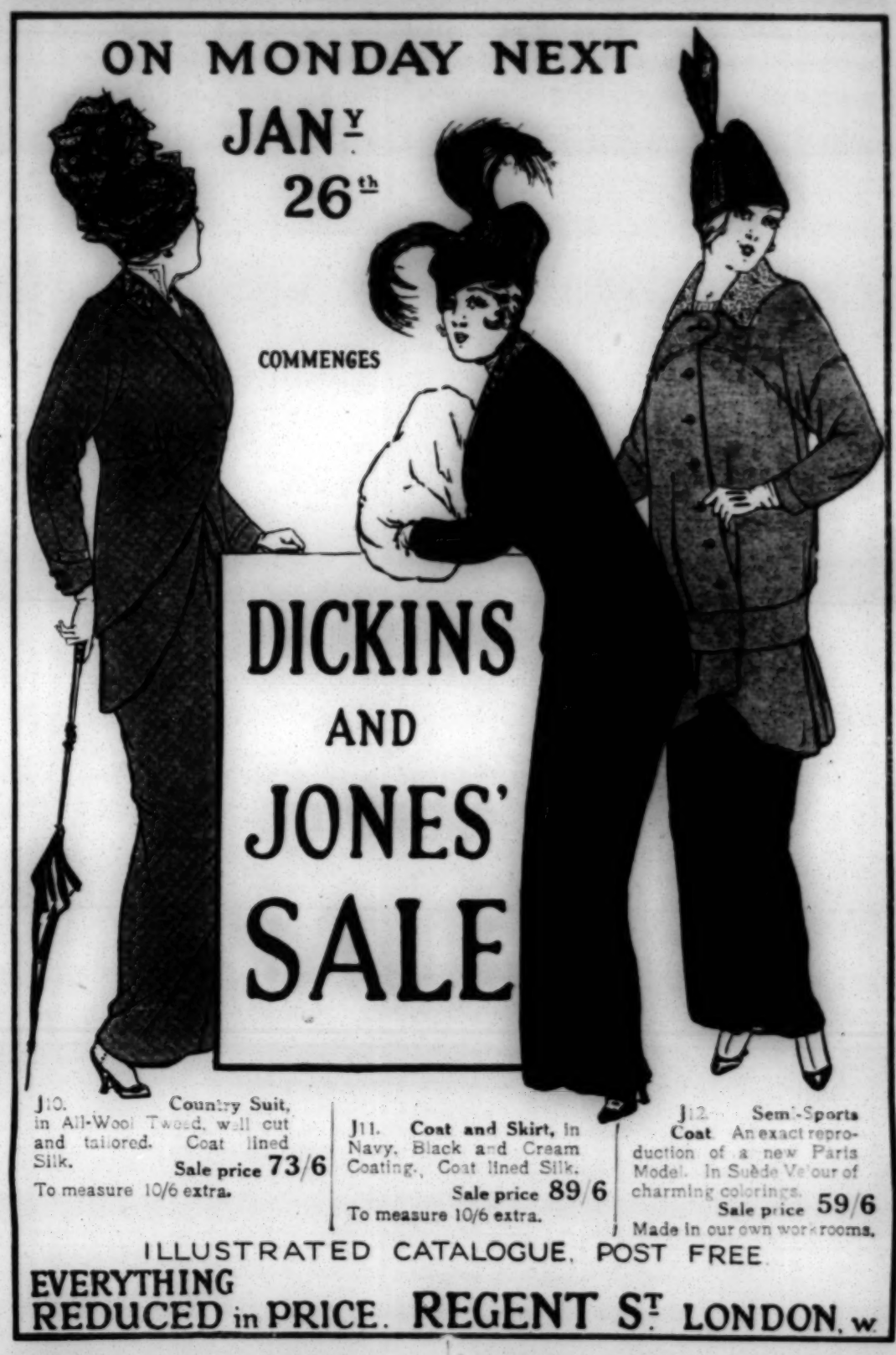
Cardiff—52, Oakfield Street—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Treborth Jones—Speaker, Miss H. Fraser

Newcastle—Co-operative Hall, Heaton—Speaker, Miss Beaven—Chair, Dr. M. Campbell

Redhill—"Sandcroft"—Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Gough—Miss Muriel Matters on "The Spiritual Aspect of the Women's Movement" 8.30

Reigate—St. Mark's Lecture Room—Miss Muriel Matters on "Delinquent Children"—Chair, The Mayor of Reigate 3.0

Romiley—Public Hall—Miss Susan Lawrence, L.C.C., on "Women and Labour"—Chair, Dr. Powicke 8.0



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Scarborough—"Friends'" Meeting—Lecture on "The Housing Problem"—Speaker, Professor Macgregor, M.A.—Chair, The Mayor (Mr. C. C. Graham, J.P.)

Southampton—The Art Gallery—Dr. Stancomb on "What Women have done with the Vote, and what they may do in England"—Tea at 4.30 3.30

Wallasey and Wirral—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Miss Jobins—Speaker, Miss Cherry—Chair, Miss E. F. McPherson 3.0

JANUARY 24.

Tunbridge Wells—60, York Road—Social Study Circle 5.0

Pontypridd—Wesley Hall—Mrs. Philip Snowden 7.30

Meeting at **Great Yarmouth** on January 24th postponed.

JANUARY 25.

Cardiff—I.L.P. Meeting 3.0

Colne—Primet Bridge—Miss Beanland on "Women's Suffrage and Labour" 6.30

JANUARY 26.

Birmingham—Oldbury Town Hall—Oldbury Women's Liberal Association—Speaker, Mrs. Ring—Chair, Mrs. Harrison Barrow 8.0

Filey—Crompton Café—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke 8.0

Manchester—Parker's Restaurant, St. Ann's Square—At Home—Speaker, The Rev. W. Whitaker 4.0—5.30

South Salford Suffrage Club, Oldfield Hall—Speaker, Mr. F Stanton Barnes 8.0

JANUARY 27.

Birmingham—Meeting for "Friends"—Hostess, Miss Kirby—Speaker, Miss Thurston 8.0

Wood Carvers' Trade Union—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.30

Chelmsford—The Grand Jury Room, Shire Hall—Miss Margaret McMillan on "The Health Centre and School Clinic: Its Aims and Functions"—Chair, Alderman J. O. Thompson 7.45

East Bristol—Miss A. M. Clough on "The Meaning of the Woman's Question" 3.0

Hastings—The Suffrage Club, 7, Havelock Road—Miss J. N. Harris on "The Inner Meaning of the Woman's Movement" 4.30

Rugby—The Church House—Miss Cécilé Matheson on "Protection of Children" 8.0

Scarborough—6, Falconer's Chambers, Huntris Row—Address to Teachers and "Friends" by Miss G. Cooke 8.0

Tunbridge Wells—18, Crescent Road—Hostess, Miss R. Weld—Mr. E. G. Bretherton on "The Legal Position of Parents towards their Children" 3.0

Wednesbury—Church Institute, Squire's Walk—Debate on "Should the Franchise be extended to Women?"—For: Mrs. Carol Ring; Against: Mr. T. J. Troman

JANUARY 28.

Bristol—Y.M.C.A., Totterdown—Speaker, Miss A. E. Tanner 3.0

Gateshead—1, Cuthbert Street, Bensham—Miss Ruth Dodds on "Some Forgotten Women"—Elocutionist, Miss Burgham 7.30

Hastings—The Suffrage Club, 7, Havelock Road—Mrs. Raymond Pelly on "My Reasons for Becoming a Suffragist" 8.15

Hull—Church Institute, Albion Street—Public Meeting—Speakers, Miss G. Cooke and Mr. G. E. Startup 8.0

Letchworth—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Pearsall—Speaker, Miss Alison Garland 3.0

Manchester—"Oakholme," Alexandra Park—Whist Drive—Hostess, Mrs. Hiller 7.30

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Wallasey and Wirral—West Kirby—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Richman—Speaker, Miss Jessie Beavan—Chair, Mrs. G. A. Stallybrass 3.15
West Derby—"Higherfield"—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 8.0

JANUARY 29.

Cuckfield—Queen's Hall—Public Meeting—Miss A. Maude Royden on "The Meaning of the Women's Movement"—Chair, The Rev. Marchant Pearson 3.30
Dewsbury—Exchange Hall—Annual Meeting and Social Evening—President, Mrs. Kerslake—Speaker, Miss Odlum
Easingwold—Town Hall—Public Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Meyer and Miss Cooke 7.30
East Bristol—Discussion Class for Men and Women 8.0
Honiton—Dolphin Hotel—Public Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Knight-Bruce and Miss Walford—Chair, Sir Robert Neuman 8.0
Liverpool—"The Grange," Fulwood Park—Hostess, Mrs. Max Musprath—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 3.0
"Inchyra House," Waterloo—Hostess, Miss Oliver Jones—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 8.0
Maidenhead—Drill Hall—Sweated Industries Exhibition—Speakers, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., and Miss Lena Ashwell—Chair, Mrs Robie Uniacke 2.30
Manchester—396, Oldham Road, Ancoats Suffrage Club—Speaker, Miss Field 8.0
Gospel Temperance Mission Hall, Ashton New Road, near Grey Mare Lane—Speaker, Miss Margaret Ashton, M.A.—Chair, Mrs. Annot Robinson 7.30
Melksham—Town Hall—Speaker, Mr. Athelstene Rendal, M.P., and others—Chair, Mr. C. W. Magger, J.P. 8.0
Oxford—The Hall of Ruskin College—General Meeting 8.0
Shanklin—Town Hall—Speaker, Mr. Baillie-Weaver—Chair, Mr. John Marsh 8.0
Southsea—The Suffrage Roms, 2, Kent Road—Mrs. Leathes on "Votes and Mothers" 8.0
Sutton Coldfield—Town Hall—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mr. Cameron Grant—Chair, Mrs. Harley 8.0
Wolverhampton—Lecture Hall, Garrick Street—Dramatic Performance—Patrons, Mrs. Major, The Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey le M. Mandec, Mr. A. Bird, M.P. 7.30
York—Annual Meeting for Members only at 2.45—Followed by an Address from Miss Cooke 4.30

JANUARY 30.

Bideford—Music Hall—Miss Ruth Giles on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement"—Chair, Mr. H. C. Bazeley 8.0
High Wycombe—Town Hall—Speakers, Miss A. Maude Royden and Miss K. D. Courtney—Chair, Mrs. Scott 8.0
Instow—Miss Knight Bruce on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement" 3.0
Malton—Adult School—Invitation Meeting—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke—Chair, The Rev. H. Ward 7.30
Newcastle—9, Elison Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. George Hall—Speaker, Miss Irene Cox
Liverpool—Ibbotson's Lane—Hostess, Mrs. Godfrey Warr—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 8.15
Purley—Lecture Hall, High Street—Annual Meeting at 3.15—Address by Mrs. Abbott at 4.30
Preston—St. Mary's Schoolroom, St. Mary's Street, Newhall Lane—The Rev. G. H. Lunn on "For England, Home, and Beauty"—Chair, the Rev. T. V. H. Rees 8.0
Wallasey and Wirral—Liscard Concert Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham—Chair, Mrs. R. Bulley 3.0

Scotland.

JANUARY 23.

Dornoch—Council Chamber—Suffrage Debate—For: Miss Murray; Against: Mrs. Macintyre 8.0
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—At Home—Mrs. Joseph Dobbie on "The Legal Disabilities of Wives and Mothers" 4.30
Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Office Meeting—Hostess, Miss A. M. Tannahill, M.A.—Mr. H. J. W. Hetherington, M.A., on "The Meaning of Democracy" 4.0
Town Hall, Rutherglen—Public Meeting—Speakers, The Lady Frances Balfour and Miss Lucy Shakspeare—Chair, Mr. T. E. Lander 8.0
Tayside—Wormit Hall—Speaker, Dr. Elsie Inglis—Chair, Dr. Emily Thomson 7.30

JANUARY 24.

Alloa—Co-operative Hall—Miss Margaret Irwin on "Our Sweated Workers and the Law"—Chair, Mr. James Cook 7.0
Castle Douglas—Annual Meeting

JANUARY 26.

Kilmarnock—Suffrage Rooms—Rogason's Buildings—Miss Shakspeare on "The Child and the State" 8.0

JANUARY 27.

Alloa—Town Hall—Music, Dancing, Theatricals—Speaker, Dr. Elsie Inglis—Chair, Mr. William Millar 8.0

JANUARY 28.

Borra—Drill Hall—Suffrage Tableaux and Fancy Dress Dance 8.0
Kilmacolm—Sale—Speaker, Miss Alice Crompton, M.A. 3.0
Leith—Liberal Women's Liberal Association, Liberal Club—Speaker, Miss Low 2.45

JANUARY 29.

Coldstream—Jumble Sale and Theatricals
Glasgow—Women's Co-operative Guild, Queen's Cross 8.0
Leith—Wilson's Hall—Public Meeting—Speaker. Mrs. Joseph Dobbie 3.0

JANUARY 30.

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Office Meeting—Hostess, Miss Miller—Mr. Andrew Ballantyne on "Women's Duty"—Tea 4.0

Chapter 8

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News from Other Societies.

International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

A meeting will be held on Monday, February 2nd, at 3.30 p.m., at the Office of the I.W.S.A., to welcome Miss Newcomb and Miss Hodge after their trip to Australia and New Zealand. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., will take the Chair. Miss Newcomb will speak on "The Proposed New Woman Suffrage Union of the British Dominions Overseas," and Miss Hodge on "The Effect of the Women's Vote in Australia and New Zealand."

Women's Tax Resistance League.

Dr. Heanley was summoned at the East Ham Police-court on January 15th for non-payment of the Insurance Tax for her servant. Dr. Heanley explained that her objection to paying was due to the fact that she, as a voteless woman, had no voice in the government of the country. The magistrate was sympathetic, and admitted that though he might have reasons against paying taxes, they would not be so weighty as hers. In addition to the arrears, a fine of £1 and 10s. costs was imposed. A very sympathetic audience listened at an open-air meeting addressed afterwards by Miss Margaret Douglas and Miss Amy Hicks.

An interesting debate on the Insurance Act took place at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Monday.

Irish League for Women's Suffrage.

At an entertainment given at the "Union of the Four Provinces Club," 16, John Street, Adelphi, an excellent programme was arranged by the Actresses' Franchise League, an interesting item being a duologue taken from Olive Schreiner's "Life on a South African Farm," dramatised by Miss Lucy Bensusan. Miss Iris Rowe contributed two dances, and in the interval Miss Frances Weste, of the Japanese School of Jujitsu, 31, Golden Square, gave a fine demonstration, assisted by Professors Garrud and Pape. Miss Weste showed how easy it was for a woman with a knowledge of this wonderful art to defend herself from every possible attack and to punish her assailant in a most terrible manner by means of the Japanese arm and leg-breaking holds and locks. Professor Garrud demonstrated several of the marvellous throws and holds, and Professor Pape showed how easy it was to take the most violent throws and how to break the force of the fall.

Miss Weste will be pleased to give a few trial free lessons to any lady desirous of proving the value of a knowledge of the art, if they will make an appointment at the above address

New Play to be Produced by Woman Manager.

A new play by Mr. Maurice Hewlett, called "The Ladies' Comedy," will shortly be presented in the West End by Miss Gwen John for a matinee. The scene of the play is laid in Venice at the end of the seventeenth century. The cast will include Miss Edith Evans (who will be remembered for her fine performance in Mr. George Moore's play, Elizabeth Cooper"), Miss Haidee Gunn, Mr. W. Armstrong, and Mr Everard Vanderlip. The play will be produced by Mr. A. E. Filmer.

Four one-act plays will also be presented by Mrs. Waldemer Leverton at the Court Theatre on the afternoon of January 29th. A very successful evening performance was also given by Mrs. Leverton's players on the evening of January 15th, the bill consisting of four little plays, including "Daphne Writes a Novel," by Miss Mary Plowman.

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NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Tuesday, January 27th, 3 p.m., in the New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade. "Women and Public Work from a Physiological Point of View." Dr. F. E. Willey. Baroness de Knoop.

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